

THE
Life and Death
OF
Mother Shipton.

Giving a wonderful Account of Her Strange and Monstrous Birth, Life, Actions and Death; with the correspondence she had with an Evil Spirit; the many Pranks she play'd; the Power she had to Convey her self through the Air, raise Storms and Tempests; foretel Things to come; with all her Prophecies that have come to pass, from the Reign of Henry VII. In whose time, she was Born near Dropping-Well in Yorkshire, to this present Year 1694. Containing the most Important Passages of State, during the Reign of these Kings and Queens of England following, viz.

Henry the VIII.

Edward the VI.

Queen Mary.

Queen Elizabeth.

King James the I.

King Charles the I.

King Charles the II.

King James the II.

King WILLIAM.

And

Queen MARY.

Whom God long Preservc.

With divers not yet come to pass; Foretelling or Pointing at the downfal and humbling the Greatness of the present French King, with the Happiness, Prosperity and Welfare of these Kingdoms, under Their Majesties Prosperous and Successful Reigns, with the Explanation of each Prophecy and Prediction.

London, Printed for J. Back, at the Black Boy on the middle of London Bridge, 1694.

THE
P R E F A C E
T O T H E
R E A D E R.

W^ONDER not, that We now present you with a Book of this Nature, when the Fame of *Mother Shipton* has been long known all over the Three Kingdoms; but considering the former Accountes have been very small and imperfect, We have thought it necessary to be at the pains, to give you the fullest and best Character of so Remarkable a Woman, that ever has yet appeared in Print, with a Catalogue of all Her Prophecies, and their Explanations; from the Reign of *Henry VII.* to this present Year 1694. which have, and are yet to come to pass, very Curious and Admirable; insomuch, that they have been Noted and Admired for their Veracity, by the most Learned Men of the Age; what She points at, having generally, as far as is yet known, come to pass, but to summ up all, We recommend it as a Book very useful and delightful; and therefore, doubt not its Acceptance in the World.



T H E

The LIFE and DEATH of MOTHER SHIPTON.

C H A P. I.

What her Father and Mother were, and what Wonderful things
happened at her Birth, as also the place of Her Nativity.

In the Second Year of King Henry the Seventh, which was in the Year of our Lord One thousand Four hundred Eigthy and six; there libed a Woman called Agatha Shipton, at a place called Naseborough near the Dropping-Well in York-shire. She came of poor Parentage, who Died and left her to shift for her self, at the Age of fifteen. After their Decease, she still Inhabited in the Old House; but being now deprived of those helps she formerly enjoyed, conducive to a lively-hood, she was constrained to seek Relief from the Parish; which she did, but with so much regret and grieve, that she seemed in her beggling, rather to command Alms, then in an humble manner to desire it. At length she arrived to that pass, that she was upon the matter starving, rather then she would be beholding to the Charity of any.

The Devil looking on her Poverty to be great, and knowing her evil inclinations by her complexion (for you must understand, that the Devil is a great Scholar, well read in all things, and much acquainted with the constitutions of all sorts of persons) I say, perceiving that she was willing to accept of any proposition to change her condition: He one time as she was sitting Melancholy under a Tree by a River side, accosted her in the form of a very handsome young man well apparel'd, with all things suitable to a youthful garb. Pretry Maid, (quoth he) why dost thou sit so sad? Thy age is too slender for thy head to be troubled with cares of the World: come tell me what is the matter, and if it lyeth within my power to allay thee (as I am sure it doth) thou shalt not want a friend of me.

Agatha casting up her eyes, and there seeing a Face so lovely, could not suspect a Devil hid in that comely shape; whereupon in a lamentable tone she express all that troubled her, informing him of her great wants, and that knowing not how to work, she could not provide what

her necessaries required: Pish (said the Devil) this is nothing, be ruled by me, and all shall be well; she told him she would, hereupon he ordered her to meet him at the same place the next day, and he would bring some friends along with him, for he told her he resolved to marry her; she promised him she would, and accordingly they met. He came riding upon a stately Horse, with a Pillion behind for his spouse, attended by a great many Gallants (as they appeared) well mounted, and in a Noble Equipage.

This Devils ships attendants soon conbered his Missis behind him, as she imagined; not in the least doubting the reality of what she saw.

They needed neither switch nor spur to hasten them forward, the Jades were fier y enough of themselves, and ran with such swiftness that the wind could not over-take them in their full speed; soon they arrived at their Journeys end, where seemed to be a very stately House, with a great pair of Gates, which at their approach opened by a Porter with his stick, in his Liverp-godon: Alighting, she went in, where she saw a great many servants, which seemed at the sight of her and their Master, to shew much respect and obeisance.

Now did the Devil command rich Garments to be brought, which she was immedately cloathed with, and being thus richly attired, she was ushered into a great Hall, where was a long Table furnished with all the Varieties the whole World could afford, at the upper end of which Table she was placed, next her the Friend her intended Husband; all the rest of the Guests did place themselves as they thought fit. As they had the choicest cheere, so had they the best of Wines, and sweetest Aleuch.

Dinner being ended, they fell to Dancing; and now could my lecherous Devil stay no longer, but he must needs walk a Corant with his Missis into another private Room, and there courted her to Luts; the simple Girle consented, and so they both went to Bed together, with the Ceremonies of Marriage. His touches (as she confessed to the Midwife that delibered her of her Devilish Off-spring) were as cold as Ice, or Snow. After they had lain a little while together, he told her what he was, and what she must do hereafter, if she intended to live happy and delightful days. First, he told her that he was no Mortal, but a Spirit immaterial, and not burdened by a body, nez hindered by any material thing; So that I can when I please pierce through the Earth and ransack its Treasures, and bring what precious things I please from thence to bestow on those that serbe me. I know all rare Arts and Sciences, and can teach them to whom I please. I can disturb the

Clement

Clement, stir up Thunders and Lightnings, destroy the best of things which were created for the use of Man, and can appear in what shape or form I please. It will be too long to describe my power, or tell thee what I can do; but will only tell thee what thou shalt do. That being done, I will give thee power to raise Hails, Tempests, with Lightning and Thunder; the Winds shall be at thy command, and shall bear thee whither thou art willing to go, though never so far off, and shall bring thee back again when thou hast a mind to return. The hidden treasures of the Earth shall be at thy dispose and pleasure, and nothing shall be wanting to compleat thy happiness here. Thou shalt moreover, heal or kill whom thou pleases; destroy or preserve either Man or Beast; know what is past, and assuredly tell what is to come. Here note by the way, the Devil is a Lyon from the beginning, and will promise more by ten millions, than he knows he is capable to perform, to the intent he may insnare and damn a Soul.

This poor ignorant wretch easly believed what this grand Deceicer of Mankind told her; and being ravish't with the thoughts of being so highly prefer'd, she condescended to all the Devil would have her do; Whereupon he bid her say after him, in this manner: Raziel ellimiam irammish ziragia Psonthonphanchia Raphael elhaveruna tapinumbecaz mitzphecat jarid cumam hapheah Gabriel Heydourturris angeonis philosomostarkes sopheeord hankim. After she had repeated these words after him, he pluckt her by the Groin, and there immediately grew a kind of Tet, which he instantly suckt, telling her that must be his constant Custom with her morning and evening; now did he bid her say after him again, Kameitzatuph Odel Pharaaz Tumbagin full Flemmegen Victow Denmarkeonto, having finisht his last hellish rach, which the chiefeſt of his opinions understand not, out of which one but the Devil himself can pick out the meaning; I say, it thundred horridly, that ebery clap seemed as if the vaulted roof of Heaven had sunk and was tumbling down on her head; and withal that stately Palace which she thought she had been in, vanish't in a trice; so did her sumptuous apparel: and now her eyes being opened, she found her selfe a deak doleſome Wood; a place which from the Creation, had scarce enjoyed the benefit of one ſingle Sun-Beam. Whilſt ſhe was thinking what course to ſteer in order to her return, two flaming fiergongs appear'd before her tyed to a Chariot, and as ſhe was consulting with her ſelf what was best to be done, ſhe insenſiblē was hauled to it, and with ſpeed unimaginably conveyed through the Air to her poore Cottage.

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton

C H A P. II.

How the Devil constantly visited her, in what Forms and Shapes; what strange things she did to those that offended her, harming some, and making sport with others; and at length brought to Bed of a Child, which is commonly called, Mother Shipton.

Being come home, the Neighbours flock'd about her, having miss her two or three days, shrewdly suspecting some mischief had befallen her; but when they beheld her face they were all amazed, to see such a strange alteration in her countenance, in so short a time; and here the Proverb was verified in her: She lookt as if a Hagg had rid her. Before she met with this wanton Devil, she lookt plump and fresh; which were all the good qualities she had in her ill featured face; but now that red plumpness banisht, and there was nothing to be seen but a pale shrivelled skin on her cheek, which for want of flesh seemed to fall in her mouth, to be devoured by her hunger-starved jaws. Those about her which were charitable minded, pitied her, comforted and gave her Monys, which with a great deal of disdain and scorn she threw them, saying, she wanted not, nor stood in need of their Alms; for look ye here (said she) is shoney enough, plucking her hand out of her pocket, the People drawing near her, discovered that what was in her hands was nothing else but some Aspin-leaves: and notwithstanding, they endeavoured to perswade her that she was mistaken in supposing that to be shoney, yet would she not believe them; so strong a Power the Devil had gotten over her already.

In fine, she did bid them all be gone, for now she began to take little delight in humane Society: it was not long that they had left her, before the Devil (with whom she had made a Hellish Contract) came into see her, in the same handsome young form as he first appeared unto her, telling her that he came to supply the company of those she had wisely dismiss'd, that she needed not the Society of humane creatures, for he would not fail to be constantly with her; always bringing with him what should not only serue for a bare Libelyhood, but her Delight, Pleasure, and Satisfaction? Whereupon by the Devils Command, there instantly appeared seemingly, a compleat noise of Musick, with Dishes of meat, great variety of the choicest and most pleasing sort: which so ravished Agatha, that she fell to the ground in a very profound and deuine trance. One of her Neighbours coming in this while, wondered

see Agatha lying on the flooz motionless; however out of pity and commiseration, she kneeled down, and hating evost her self, and said a short Prayer, she endeavoured to waken Agatha, but using what means she could, it all signified nothing; she shook and pinche her, and pulled her by the Nose, yet still she lay insensible: This Neighbouring-woman being strangly amazed and scared hereat, ran out amonst the rest of her Neighbours, cryng out that pooz Agatha Shipton was sudainly struck dead, and so desired them to go into the house with her, and they shold there be the Eye-Witnesses of the truth therof; whereupon sevral went and found what this woman had said: to be seemingly true: but one wiser then the rest stooped down and perceiving that she breathed, spake aloud, Friends, ye are all mistaken, Agatha is not dead, but in a Trance, or else she is bewitched; she had scarce uttered these words before Agatha began to stir; and soon after, raised her self on her Leggs, cryng out in a very distracted tone, What make ye here, kille wretches? Cannot I enjoy my pleasures; but ye must be Chess-dropping? get ye gone, as hading nothing to do here; and hereupon she fell a Dancing, which they wondered at, because they could here no Musick. At length Agatha turning about, and seeing they were not gone, said, if ye are resolbed thus to disturb me, and will not go, I will make ye; this some thing affrighted them, for they now verily believéd she was a Witch; and as they were hastning away with all imaginable speed, a sudden strong Wind hoisted them a great heighe into the Air, falling all to the ground again without the least harm, only some swame to the women, for they descended with their Heads downwards, their Coats over their Ears, their lower parts appearing all naked to the astonished Spectatores; the Men were seen like overgrown Goats, with large hogns on their heads, and Women riding on their backs, whch sights as they produced inexpressible wonder, so amidst their amazement, they could not but burst out into excessive laughter.

This wonderful and unexeeted exploit, was instantly noised all about the Countrey, which occasioned a great resort of People to the place where Agatha lived; which so perplex her by their undesirred visits, that she resolbed within her self to be revenged on some of them; which by the Devils help she effected; mischieving some in their persons, others in their Cattel, and others in their Credits; one had a Horse that dyed suddenly, and being opened, there was found in his Stomach Fish-hooks, and Hair, instead of Hay and Oats. Another going

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

ing to sit down at Table with Persons of good quality at dinner-time; and thinking himself very spruse and fine, had in an instant his Nusse pull'd off, and the seat of an House of Office clapt on in its place, he that sat next him breaking out into a great laughter at the sight thereof, was serbed little better; for his Watt was invisibly conveyed away, and a Pan of a Close-stool which stood in the next Room, put on instead thereof; A modest young Gentlewoman which did sit at the Table at that time, on no other errand but to see this young Witch which was so much talked of; looking on these two worthy spectacles of laughter, endeavouring all she could to refrain laughing, but could not, and withal continued farting soe above a quarter of an hour; this made them all laugh so extreamly that the Master of the House was alarum'd (below) therewith, and being desirous to share with his Guests in their Mirth, came running up Stairs as fast as his legs would carry him, about to enter the dooz, he could not, and no wonder, since the oldest man living, never saw a larger pair of boozns then he had on his Head: Whilst they were gazeing one on another as mox then half distracted, they were all reduced to the same condition they were in before; after which there followed a noise, as if an hundred persons were laughing together, but nothing at all was seen.

These persons fearing something worse might besal them if they staid any longer, made all the hast they could to be gone: Agatha knowing their intent, resolued to take her farwel of them, by serbing them one trick moze, which was thus; as they were about to mount on Horseback, they were pelted with rotten Apples, Dung, and Ruff that smelt worse than can be imagined. As they rid through the Town, such men as thought they rid singly, were all obserued to habe behind them a deformed old Woman; and as their Faces differ'd all one from another, so did their habits, which were all tatter'd and ragged, and patcht with a hundred colours, fear, shame, and the hooting of the People, made them put spurs to their Horses, neither did they forbeare the switch, nor any thing that may add fseed to their Horses heels, so that it may be said, they rather flew then rode; how could it be otherwise? For needs must he go whom the Devil drives.

Coming home, they declare what wonderful things they had seen performed, though by a young one, yet as they believed the greatest Witch in the World: this news being so generally spred, came at length to the ear of the Justices, who now thought it high time to question and bring into examination a person that was so much talked of, and might, if let alone, do greater mischief.

C H A P.



C H A P. III.

How Agatha Shipton was Apprehended and brought before a Justice, what her Confession was; her Mittimus being made to be sent to Prison; how she escaped by the help of her Friend, the Fiend; she is retaken, and being found with Child, is Baile'd.

Agatha is now no longer suspected, but plainly known to be a Witch, doing something or other daily which is very remarkable; she hath been frequently observed to walk alone muttering to her self, and having been watcht by some, they have seen her stamp upon the ground thrice, then wound her hands ober her head: lastly, she spake one word thrice, and in the twinkling of an eye, the sky hath been dark and gloomy, though clear before, which belcht out nothing soz half an hour but flames, Thundozing after a most videous manner.

Exe

But now the time draws on, wherein she must give an account for what she hath done, and in order thereto, she is apprehended by two resolute Fellow's, who were not a whit daunted when they entred the house, though Toads, Adders, and such-like noisome Creatures crawled up and down the house, but could not chuse but be much startled when they seiz'd her, and were carrying her, to hear such a terrible Crack or Thunder, the house at that time reeling too and fro like a Cradle.

Wherever they carried her before the Justice, where being brought, she was strictly examined by him; she not a jot daunted, told him that she had more Authority then he, and that notwithstanding his power, she could command one that could over-rule him when he list; that she was a Princess, and could have at her beck a Thousand Spirits of the Air, and as many of the Earth and Water, that she could raise a Tempest presently, that should overturn his house about his Ears; and that you may know, it lies not in your power to detain me, three words shall procure my liberty: hereupon she said, Updraxi, call Stygicon Helluo, she had not scarce uttered the last word, before there came in a bozzid winged Dragon, which immediately took her up, and carried her away from the amazed Justice and Attendants about him, half dead with fear.

This so affrighted all that heard of it, that none would undertake to meddle with her more; so that she had a considerable time of respite. But she now began to be more admiz'd than before, being discovered by the great swelling of her Belly, to be with Child: The people could not tell what to think, or who should be the Father, concluding that none would be so base and wicked, as to have Copulation with a Devil incarnate; neither could they believe a Spirit had either desire or power, to generate with any humane Creature; while people were generally passing their verdicts on Agatha, she was once more taken and brought before a Justice, and amongst other questions, was asked, whether she was with Child, she acknowledged it; nay further, that it was begot by no Mortal Wight: The Justice gave no Credit to what she said, as looking on her as an ignorant seduced Woman; and to askt her what Bail she could produce, intending to deferr the business till she was Delivered; in this very nick of time, two Gentlemen as they appeared by their habits, voluntarily proffered themselves, which as soon as accepted for Bail, banish't presently, however Agatha had permission to go home.

C H A P. IV.

What kind of shape Mother Shipton had when she was Born: How she was put to Nurse at the charge of the Parish; and what strange things were seen in that House where she was Nurs'd, during the time of Four years.

The usual time of Forty weeks being expired, her Mother, after many strange and horribble Tortments which she underwent in her Travail, was at last Delivered (by the rare Skill and Industry of her Midwife, and others of that Sex) of her which is now called, Mother Shipton, which prob'd the conclusion of her miserable Life. But her entry into the World was such a terror to all that beheld her, that several credible persons then present, have severall times consett that they never beheld the like: Such strange and horrible Noises, that the Persons concern'd about her, could scarce finde so much Courage in themselves as to continue in the place where she was, much less when they beheld the strange and unparralleld Phisognomy of the Child, which was so misshapen, that it is altogether impossible to express it fully in words, or the most ingenious to Limn her in colours, though many Persons of eminent qualifications in that Art have often attempted it, but without any success; and therefore according to the best observations of her, take this true, though not full account of her features, and body: She was of an indifferent heighth, but very moze and big boyl'd her head very long, with very great goggling, but sharp and fiery Eyes, her Nose of an incredible and unproportionable length, having in it many crooks and turnings, adorned with many strange Pimples of divers colours, as Red, Blew, and Spixt, which like Vapours of Brimstone gave such a lustre to her affrighted spectators in the dead time of the night, that one of them confess'd severall times in my hearing, that her Nurse needed no other light to assist her in the performance of her duty: Her Cheeks were of a black swarthy complexion, much like a mixture of black and yellow Jaundies, wrinkled, shrivelled, and very yellow; insomuch, that as the Ribs of her Body, so the impaction of her Teeth were easily to be discerned, through both sides of her Face, answering one side to the other, like the notches in a Waller, excepting only two of them which stood quite out of her Mouth;

in imitation of the Tusks of a wild Boar, or the Tooth of an Elephant, a thing so strange in an Infant, that no age can parallel: Her Chin was of the same Complexion as her Face, turning up towards her mouth, cheeks being beard. from an unknown cause, as if there had been a more than an ordinary correspondence between her Teeth and it.

Her Neck so strongly distorted, that her right Shoulder was forced to be a supporter to her head, it being propt up by the help of her Chin, in such sort, that the right side of her Body stood much lower than the left; like the reeling of a Ship that sails with a side wind. Again, her left side was quite turned the contrary way, as if her Body had been screw'd together piece after piece, and not rightly placed: her left shoulder hanging just perpendicular to her Fundament.

Her Leggs very crooked and mishapen: The Toes of her feet looking towards her left side; so that it was very hard for any person (could she have stood up) to guess which road she intended to steer her course; because she never could look that way she resolv'd to go.

After she had remained under the care of her Nurse, for the space of a Month or thereabouts, her Mother being unable to provide for her, she was put out to Nurse at the charge of the Parish, to a poor Woman hard by in the Town, where she continued for the space of half a year or thereabouts, the house not being any waies disturbed at all, till at last her Nurse having been abroad amongst some of the chief of the Parishioners, either to procure something of their Charity for her substance, and the maintenance of her Family, or else to fetch her money from the Overseers of the Poor, for Nursing the Child; and returning home to her House, she found her doo^rs unbard and wide open, whereat she much amazed and affrighted, ran to her next Neighbour, and acquainted her that she was quite undone, for her house was broken open and robbed, the man immedaitely riseth from his Dinner, carrying his bread and Cheese in his hand, accompanied with his wife and another labouring man; apprroaching the doo^r, endeavoured to enter, but before they could all get quite in, there was immedaitely a very strange noise heard in the next Room to them, as if it had been a consort of Catts, which so affrighted them, that they all run towards the doo^r endeavouring to get out again, but it was in vain; for at their approach there were great long yocks about their Necks, in the form of a Crost, or turned Sile; so that they could not possibly return;

return; and while they were thus striving and crying out for help, their poaks at last fell off, and a coule-staff, or Brewers-sling laid upon the mens shoulders; upon which an old woman presented her self Naked, sometimes hanging by the Heels, sometimes by the Toes, anon by the Middle; with divers other postures, they continuing for the space of half an hour, in such sorte, that the pooz men were never more tired in clearing of Leggs, nor less pleased at any thing than in being constrained to burnour this piece of hellish activity.

After they had got a discharge from this their new employment, the house note being quiet, and they a little recovered their sences, and missing the women, they ran further into the house, where at last they found them lying flat upon their Bellies, their cloaths being turned backwards over their heads, two great black Carrs were playing Hocus Pocus upon their posteriors, which the men in bain attempted to drive away, untill at last their own slabery procured the womens freedom from that employment, though they changed not much for the better, for as they were coming out of that Room, in the next there stood a pair of Parwingles, made in the form of a Crois, upon which women use to put great shains of Yarn, that so they may wind it off with more ease and less trouble: these being placed in the middle of the Room, the two men and two women were fozed to take the four ends thereof in their hands, and so hauke round about the Room one after another, until such time as they were almost tired to death, carrying upon every one of their Shoulders an Imp in the likeness of a Monkey or Ape, which hung close upon them; and when eber they slackned their pace, these Spritis pricked them forward, continuing this recreation for a very considerable time; and being cloyd with this kind of diversion, they banishd quite out of sight, leaving these pooz wretches as weary as astonished: notwithstanding no sooner perceivd themselves at liberty, but they presently quitted the house, and soon after addressed themselves to several of the Neighbourhood, acquainting them with what had happened, which caused great amazement amongst them, and immediately the whole Town was in an uppre; and the Minister and severall of the most eminent Inhabitantes, consulted together what the occision thereof shoud be, and what to do in the busyness, some of them threatening the informer; others thinking they were distracted: But at last they resolv'd to go to the House; yet when they came near, there arose a great dispute amongst them who shoud first enter, which

at last was agreed upon, and the Parson (with his Congregation attending him in the Year;) gave them the first onset, and entring the dooz quivering and shaking, they heard the Nurse-Child cry in a most hideous and doleful manner; whereupon there was suddenly a noise like the treading of People upon Stones, though the House in any place had no other than an earthen Floor; at which the Child ceased, and a very sweet Muscial Harmony of sevral Notes was heard, and all presently banished again: after which the Minister and Inhabitants entring, and searching the House, and at length missing the Child, one of them looking up the Chimney, saw the Cradle wonderfully hanging about three yards high without and support; which being as strangely conveyed down again: they encouraged the Nurse, and leaving her in the House (though affrighted) they departed for the present.

C H A P. V.

How Mother Shipton whilst but very young at Nurse, was daily visited by Spirits, in divers Shapes and Forms; and what pranks they play'd during her abode there.

Mother Shipton now grew apace, and as her Statute increased, so did her deformity: Her supposed Father (the foul Fiend) omitted not a day wherein he visited not the House where she was, sometimes visibly in the form of a Cat, Dog, Bat, or Hog; at other times invisibly by noises so terrible, as it so affrighted the Nurse, that he oftentimes resolved to deliver up her charge, and forsake her habitation; sometimes, she came in a pleasant humour, either Singing or Playing on an Instrument, which was usually a Scotch Bag-pipe.

Her Nurse sometimes was in great perplexity, not knowing what was become of her, for an whole day together; but when she was in her greatest search after her, she saw her oftentimes drop through the Roof of the House: Going out, upon her return, she many times found her Child stretcht out to a Prodigious length, taller than the tallest Liding, and at other times as much decreas'd or shornted. The poor Womans work for the Major part, was only to rectifie what these Spirits disordered about her House; the Chairs and Stools would frequently march up Stairs and down, and they usually plaid below at Bowls

with

with the Trenchers and Dishes: Going to Dinner, the meat was removed before she could touch a bit of it, which things, as they much troubled the Nurse, so they gave much satisfaction to Mother Shipton; as it appeared by her monstrous Smiles: Now and then to pacifie her Nurse when she saw her much vexed hereat, she would say, be contented, there is nothing here will harm you.

To be short, the Nurse was so continually terrified by these apparitions, that she resolded to complain to the Parish; and having made known the truth of what had past, in commiseration to the woman almost distracte, they remobed Mother Shipton to another place, where she was put to School, being of an Age now fitting for it.

C H A P. VI.

How Mother Shipton was put to School, Learning more in a day, than other Children in a Month: How she was Jeared by her School-fellows, for having such a Monstrous long Nose: and what prancks she plaid upon them, by way of Revenge: growing now very Famous.

Mother Shipton was now groten a lilly Girl; and as she was left to the care of the Parish, for the Parish took care that she should have the common sort of Learning; that is to say, Reading and Writing bestowed upon her. Coming to School, her Mistris began to instruct her, as other Children, begining with the Cris-cross-row as they call'd it, Hawing and naming only three or four Letters at first, but to the amazement and astonishment of her Mistris; she exactly pronounced every Letter in the Alphabet without Leaching. Hereupon her Mistris shewed her a Primer, which she Read as well at first sight, as any in the School, and so procceded in any Book was shwon her.

As this produced wonder in her School-Mistris, so hatred and envy in her Comrades; some flouted her for her monstrous long Nose, others endeauoured to beat her, and all strove to mischiefe her; but she valued them not, rebenging her self upon everyone of them, that intended her harm. Some were pinch'd and no hand seen that did it; others were struck speechles when they were about to say their Lessons, not being able to utter a word; and none escaped from being scurbed one

scurby

scurby trick, or other. This so enraged the Parents of these Children, looking on Mother Shipton the sole cause hereof; that she was discharged the School, and so left to the wide World.

She hath been often seen when alone, to laugh heartily; at other times to talk by her self, uttering very strange riddles, which occasioned some of the more sober sort to converse with her, receiving such strange things from her, as required a long study to find out the meaning.

Never a day passed, wherein she related not something very remarkable, and required the most serious consideration. And now it was that People flocked to her far and near, (her fame was so great) to be resolbed of their Doubts, all returning wonderfully satisfied in the Resolution of their questions.

How several persons came to Mother Shipton, for her Predictions; and how a Rich Heire being deceived by her Maid, fell sick of Grief, and dyed.

And now Mother Shipton beginning to grow famous in the World, for her notable Judgment in things to come. There resorting to her House a Number of People, of all sorts, both old and young, rich and poor; Especially, of the Female Sex, viz Young Maids and Wenchens, who have alwaies a great Itching desire to know when they shall be Marries; as also, what manner of Husbands they shall have; to which she gafe such satisfactory answers, both to the Persons and time, that no sooner could a young Maid get into the Teens, but she would presently Crote to Mother Shiptons, to be resolbed of her doubt. Now, though she were not mercenary her self, but refuted great Gifts, when proffered unto her; yet did she keepe a young wench, who rather then fail, if they forgot to open their purse to her, She would remember to open her mouth to them, and tell them, that her dame Shipton, nor she, could not be maintained with thanks, but that the belly required meat to feed it; and that it was money which made the Mare to go. One day there came a certain young Heire hither, whose Father was sick, to be resolbed by her, whether he shold live or dye;

dye ; but Mother Shipton, could by no means be wrought upon to tell him any thing ; whereupon he proffered the Maid great stoe of Honey, if she could by any means persuade her dame, to fulfil his request ; the Wench greedy of Money, promised him fair ; and that if he would come the next Morning, he should be certain to be resolded ; in the mean time, she importuned her Dame with the most curning Rheswick that she could invent, but she was deaf to all intreaties, and would by no means be induced thereto, whereupon the Wench resolved with her self, rather than to loose the Honey, to give him an answer of her own intention ; which the next Morning she performed in these words.

The Grave prepared hath a Room,
Prepare for Death, thy hour is Come,

The young Gentleman having received this answer, went home joyfully, hoping presently to reap the Golden Crop which his Father had sown, and to be in an instant, possessed of all his vast estate, but the sequel proved quite contrary ; for by that time he came home, great hopes of amendment appeared in his Father, who each day grew better and better, so that in a shourt time he became perfectly well. This unexpected recovery of the old man, struck such a dump in our young Heir, that he presently took his Bed, fell extreain sick, and in a shourt time grew extraordinary ill, that all the Symtoms of a dying man appeared in him : The old man, who had carped and cared all his life time for his Son, (having no moare Children but he) was very desirous of his life, and to know whether he should recover ; whereupon he sent to Mother Shipton about the same ; who knowing by her Art, what her Maid had done, sufficiently did chide her for the same : threatening upon such another offence, to turn her out of her service. In the mean time, the Messenger was come to her House, who having delivered his errant, was turned back with this answer.

For others Deaths who do gape out,
Their own unlookt for, comes about :
Earth he did seek, e're lo g shall have
Of Earth his fill, within his Grave.

The old man having recievied this answer, was much troubled, es-
thinking his own Death predicted thereby, not imagining in the least,
what his Son had done ; but he was soon quit of that suspition, for
within two daies the young man dyed ; when by a Servant (who
knew the passages) he was informed the truth of the whole matter.

C H A P.

C H A P. VIII.

Mother Shiptons Prophesies concerning King Henry the Eighth's Journey into France ; of Cardinal Wolsey, and other things.

A bout this time, some differences arising betwixt King Henry the Eighth, and the French King ; great preparations of War were made in England, the Drums beating in every County, to summon Voluntary Valour to express it self, in Defence of their King and Country, many Heroick Spirits, who made Honour their Aim, not dreading any dangers for the attaining thereof, now listed themselves Bellona's followers : so many appearing under Mars his Banner, that he who was furnished with Limbs and an Estate, to decline the Service was adjudged a Coward. There was then living in the North, a young Heir, who was newly come to his Estate, one whose Tongue was all Fire, and his Heart all Ire, who would kill Thousands with twods, but durst not adventure to do any thing in deeds. This Gallant being by some of his Equals, pricked on to make his appearance in the Fields of Mars, and not to lye sleeping at home when Fame Summoned him forth to Action, he knew not what to do in this case ; loath was he to loose his loved Life, and yet the aspersion of a Coward, though to a Coward himself, is of all things most odious ; He therefore promised them fair ; that none should be more willing then he, to spend his Blood in the quarrel of that Country, from whence he received his dearest Life ; but yet resolued with himself, not to set one step forward in that path of danger, till he had first consulted with Mother Shipton, concerning what success he should have in his journey ; if bad, he was resolued by a feigned sickness to evade, thinking it no Policy for a Man to part away with that Life in an instant, which with great cost and care, had been many years in bringing up.

Hereupon he hastens to our Northern Prophetess, acquaints her with his condition, and very earnestly desires of her (as she to whom nothing was unhid) that she would unfold to him whether good, or bad fortune should be his attendant, in this his expedition. Mother Shipton though she perceived his Sheepless Courage to be every way unanswerable to that of a Souldier, yet foreknowing what would come to pass, returned him this answer ; which without more ado, fully satisfied

caused him to proceed, and perform what he had promised; the answer was this,

When the English Lyon shall set his paw on the Gallique shore,
then shall the Lillies begin to drop for fear: There shall be much
weeping and wailing amongst the Ladies of that Country; because
the Princely Eagle shall joyn with the Lyon, to tread down all that
shall oppose them. and though many Sagittaries shall appear in de-
fence of the Lillies, yet shall they not prevail; because the dull An-
imal of the North shall put them to confusion; and though it be
against his will, yet shall cause great shame unto them. Now shall
the Spirited Peacock first begin to Plume, whose Train shall make a
great show in the World for a time; but shall afterwards vanish away,
and his great Honour come to nothing; which shall take its end at
Kingston.

The Explanation of the Prophecy.

By the English Lyon was meant the King of England; and by setting his Paw on the Gallique Shore, the Landing of his Army in France, which not long after he did; by the Lillies beginning to drop for fear, was signified the great trouble and perplexity of the French, the Lillies being the Arms of France; the weeping and wailing amongst the Ladies of that Country, denotes the miseries and destructions incident to War, the Sword, Famine, Destruction and Desolation being inseparable Companions; by the Princely Eagle joyning with the Lyon, and treading down all that should oppose them, is meant Maximilian the German Emperor (whose Arms were the Eagle) who not only joyned in Amity with King Henry, but also took wages of him, and served him in his Wars as an hired Soldier; by the Sagittaries that appeared in defence of the Lillies, was meant the French Cavalry, the chief strength of France, consisting of Horse-men, who appearing like Sagittaries, that is to say, half Men, and half Horses, gave Mother Shipton to use that expression; whereas it is said, Yet they should not prevail, it fell out so accordingly; for notwithstanding all the oppositions of the French Armies King Henry proceeded on vigorously, Conquering and taking severall Towns of importance, as Tournay, Buloign, &c. But to come to that which most nearly concerns the matter, Viz. the Success of our young Heir, in this expedition, which was bin-
d foorth unto him in these words, because the dull Animal of the North

shall put them to Confusion; and though it be against his will, yet shall cause great shame unto them: by the dull Animal of the North, was meant this fresh-water Soldier, who according to the Prophecy, put the Frenchmen to confusion, and great shame, for passing the seas with King Henry, being mounted on a fatle Pidge, as both Armies confronted each other; he being in the Head of the Mattle, just before the Charge, somebody striking his Pidge, the Jade carried him by force upon the Enemy, with such violence, as put their front into some disorder, which being peresived by our men, they presently seconded him, that in fine, the French army fayly ran away, leaving the English a glorious victory, purchased with a little cost.

By this means was Mother Shiptons Prediction fulfilled to the disgrace of the French, and great praise of the young Gallant; for the rest of the Prophecy, the Interpretation thereof runs thus.

By the Mitred Peacock was intended Cardinal Wolsey, signified by that Wird, because of his great pride, who being but a poor Butler's Son of Ipswich in Suffolk, grew to such height, that he thought himself superior to the chief Nobles of the Land, living in such splendor as not to be parallel'd, according to the Prophecy: Whose Train shall make a great show in the World; and whereas it is said, the Peacock shall then begin to Plume, so it was, that when King Henry had taken the City of Tourney in France, he made Wolsey Bishop thereof, who soon after rose to the highest degree of Honour a Subject could be capable of, which afterwards (as the Prophecy says) vanished away, and his great Honour come to nothing: And lastly, whereas it is said, he should have his end at Kingstone; the Cardinal being told of this Prophecy, would never pass through the Town of Kingstone, though lying directly in the road, from his own Hause to the Court, but afterwards being Arrested of High Treason, by the Earl of Northumberland and Sir Anthony Kingstone the Lieutenant of the Tower, sent unto him his very Name (remembering this Prophecy) which struck such a terror to his heart, that he soon after expired.

C. H. A. P.

CHAP. IX.

Her Prophecy to the Abbot of Beverly, concerning the downfall of
Abbes, Bunnies, Bribes, &c. with other things.

M Other Shiptons Predictions coming thus effectually to pass, spread her Fame far wider than it was; insomuch, that many who before looked upon her as a crackt-brain'd Woman, now began to admire her, and to esteem of her words as Prophets. And as the nature of English People is, rather to desire to know what is to come, than to seek to rectifie what is done amiss; so the greatest part of her visitors, came only to he resolv'd of what she knew, would come to pass, of which number was the Abbot of Beverly, who fearing the downfall of Religious Houses, and a change of Religion then professed, putting on the counterfeit Cloaths of a Lay-person, he came to Mother Shiptons, and knocking at the dooz, she being within, called to him, and said, come in Mr. Abbot, for you are not so much disguised, but the Fox may be seen through the Sheeps skin; it is not those Cloaths makes you a Lay-person, no more then a Long-Coton, makes a Man a Lawyer; come, take a stool and sit down, for you shall not go away unsatisfid of what you desire, and thereupon he began to utter forth her Prophecies in this sort.

When the Cow doth ride the Bull,
Then Priest beware thy Scull.
And when the lower Shrubs do fall,
The great Trees quickly follow shall.
The Mitred Peacocke losy pride,
Shall to his Master be a Guide.
And one great Court to pass shall bring,
What was neer done by any King.
The Poor shall Grieve to see that Day,
And who did Feast, must Fast and Pray,
Fate so Decreed their Overthrow,
Riches brought Pride, and Pride brought Wo.

These Prophecies were thus explained; by the Cow was meant King Henry, who gave the same, by reason of the Earldom of Richmond,

mond, which was his Inheritance: and the Bull betokeneth Mrs. Anne Bulloign, whom the King took to wife, in the Moon of Queen Katharine, her Father gave the Black Bulls head in his Cognizance, and was his Beast; and when the King had married Queen Anne, then was fulfilled the second line of the Prophecy, viz. Then Priest beware thy Scull; for what a number of Priests Religious and Secular, lost their heads for offending of those Laws made to bring this matter to pass.

And when the Lower Shrubs do fall,
The great Trees quickly follow shall.
The Mitred Peacocke lofty pride,
Shall to his Master be a Guide.

Cardinal Wolsey (who is here intended by the Mitred Peacock) in the height of his Pride, and baseness of his undertaking, intending to erect two fair Colleges, one at Ipswich where he was born, the other at Oxford where he was bred; and finding himself unable to endow them at his own Charges; he obtained Licence of Pope Clement the Sebenth, Aano 1525, to suppresses forty small monasteries in England, and to lay their old Lands to his new Foundations, which was done accordingly; and the poore People that lived in them; turned out of dooors, many of the Clergy were very much against this action of Wolseys, especially John Fisher Bishop of Rochester, alleging for the same an Apology out of AEsop, that the Iron Head of the Axe, craved a handle of the Wood of Oaks, only to cut off the seere boughs of the Tree; but when it was a compleat instrumental Axe, it felled all the Wood: applying it, That the Suppressing of those smaller Houses, would in fine, prove destructive to all the rest; which came to pass accordingly; for King Henry seeing the Cardinals power to extend so far as to suppresses these lower Shrubs, he thought his Prerogative might stretch so far, as to fell down the Great Trees; and soon after dissolved the Priory of Christ's Church nigh Aldgate in London, now known by the name of Dukes-place, and which was the richest in Lands and Ornaments of all the Priories in London or Middlesex; and which was a fore-runner of the Dissolution of all the rest; and which not long after came to pass.

And one great Court to pass shall bring,
What was ne're done by any King.

By the Great Court, is meant the Parliament, the Supreme Court of England; who in the Twenty-seventh of King Henry's Reign, Anno 1539. To support the King's States, and supply his wants, conferred on the Crown all Religious Houses, which were not able clearly to expend above two hundred pounds a year; the great ones not long after following the same fortune of the smaller, which was never done (though attempted) by any King before.

The Poor shall Grieve to see that day.

The Abbots and Priors being most bountiful House-keepers, relieving all comers and goers, got themselves much reputation for their Hospitality.

And who did Feast, must Fast and Pray.

By the Dissolution of these Houses, many thousands were driven to seek their Fortunes in the wide World, and become utterly exposed to want, when Monkish profession was without possession; many a young Nun prob'd an old Beggar, and were forced to fast for want of Victuals, who formerly had it prob'd for them to their hand.

Fate so Decreed their overthrow,

Riches brought Pride, and Pride brought woe.

The great Riches and pride of the Monks and Friars was (no doubt) the main cause of their overthrow; for whatsoever was the p'rence, questionless prouesse was the Rose which pulled these Religious Houses down.

All these things coming to pass before such time as this Abbot dyed, caused him to have a great esteem of Mother Shipton, and to value her Prophecies more then ordinary conjectures; though at the first, he could not tell what to make of her Ambiguous Lines, which like the Oracles formerly delivered at Delphos: rather brought one into a Labyrinth of confused conjectures then satisfied the expectation, until by the Clue of time, the Middles were manifest; and ther which at first seemed so hard, now appeared to the understanding, as easie; However he at present kindly thanked Mother Shipton, and liberally rewarded her Maid (who else would have put him in mind of his neglect) much admiring that she should be so clear-sighted, as to see through his counterfeit Dyes; resolbing afterwards to be more informed by her, concerning future events; he at that time took his solemn leabe of her, and returned home.

C H A P. X.

Her Prophecies concerning King Edward the Sixth: The Rebellion of the Commons: The Death of the Duke of Somerset, with other things.

NOt long had the Abbot been at home, but his Abby was visited by some Instruments employed by the Lord Cromwel for that purpose. He who knew what was intended by this Complement, thought it not safe to strive against the Stream, and therefore quietly surrendered his Monastery into the Kings bands: And now perceiving Mother Shiptons Prophecy plainly fulfilled, in the downfall of those Houses, which were judged Impregnable, against all the assaults and Malice, and time; Considering the strange Revolutions of so short a space: he was very desirous to be more fully informed of the future. In this Resolution he repaired again to Mother Shiptons, whom he now accosts more familiarly than he did before, making himself plainly known unto her, telling her that as what she had formerly spoken, he had found to be true in the event; so his Judgment perswaded him, she was not ignorant of those things which were for the future to ensue, and therefore desired her she would not be nice in imparting of this her fore-knowledge unto him; for which so great labour, though it were more than his deserts could command, yet should there never in him be wanting a grateful tongue to acknowledge, and a grateful heart to be thankful unto her, for so great a Labour.

Mr. Abbot (said she) leave of Complementing, as more fit for Courtiers, and Lovers, and not agreeable to an old Woman, who will neither flatter, nor be flattered by any; and for what you came about, I shall not be squeamish to fulfil your request, let me therefore desire you, to lend your attention, and thereupon (after some short pause) she thus began.

A Prince that never shall be Born,
Shall make the Shaved Heads forlorn.
Then shall Commons rise in Arms,
And Womens Malice cause much harms.
O deadly Pride! O hateful Strife!
Brothers to seek each others Life.

Ambiti-

Ambition shall so deadly spread,

The Griffon fierce shall loose his Head.

Soon after shall the Lyon dye,

And Mildness usher Cruelty.

These ten lines being Prophecies of the Actions in King Edwards Reign, for the Readers benefit, (before we proceed any further in her Predictions) we will unfold the meaning of them by themselves, that we may not too much burthen their memory; but by variety add a pleasure to the Reading of them.

A Prince that never shall be born,

Shall make the Shaved Heads forlorn.

By the Prince that never shall be born, is meant King Edward the Sixth, of whom all reports do constantly run, that he was not by Natural Passage delivered into the World, but that his Mothers Body was opened for his Birth, that she died of the Incision the fourth day following; and by the Shaved Heads, is understood the Monks, Fryers, &c. who are said to be become forlorn: the Reformation beginning with the beginning of King Edwards Reign: and the Popes Priests put down, as his Supremacy was before.

Then shall Commons rise in Arms.

King Edward having set out certain Injunctions for the Reformation of Religion, as the Commissioners passed to divers places for the establishing of them, many scorns were cast upon them, and the farther they went from London, the People were more uncivil, so did they more rise into insolency and contempt; for in Cornwal, the Commons rocked together, having killed one of the Commissioners, and albeit Justice was done to the offenders, the principal of them being Executed in severall places, yet could not their boldness be beaten downe with their severity, but that the mischief spreas farther in Wiltshire, and Somerset-shire, where the People supposing that a Common-wealth could not stand without Commons beat down Inclosures, and laid Parks, and Fields Champion. The like Commotions followed in Sussex, Hamp-shire, Kent, Gloucester-shire, Warwick-shire, Essex, Hertford-shire, Leicester-shire, Worcester-shire, and Rutland-shire, but the greatest of all was in Devon-shire, and Norfolk: the one headed by Henry Arundel Esquire, Gobernour of the Mount in Cornwall, the other by Robert Ket a Tanner of Windham in Norfolk: Those of Devon-shire, were accounted above ten thousand,

who

who with a close and smart Siege, surrounded the City of Exeter, which they brought to extrem mistery, habing a potent Foe abzard, and Famine sorely raging within; insomuch, as they were fain to bake Bran and Meal moulded up in Cloathes, for otherwise it would not stick together; at last the Rebels were routed from thence, by the Lord Privy-Seal, with the losse of a Thousand of their Number; and soon after totally routed, at a place called Clift-heath. These of Norfolk, were judged to be more dangerous; both because their strength was great, being estimated to be above Twenty Thousand; as also the City of Norwich was a friend unto them, or at least wished them no harm: This rude rout encamped on Monshold-hill, a place Impregnable in some sort, being near to Norwich; against whom was sent the Marquess of Northampton, and afterwards the Earl of Warwick, who made many Gallies upon the Rebels with various success; had the Rebels kept in this Fort, they might have tired out the Earl, his Horse being useless against them; but they relying on an old prophecy, came down into Daffin Dale and quitted the Fort: the words of the prophecy were these.

The Country Knuffs, Bod, Dic, and Vic,
With clubs, and clouted Shone,
Shall fill up Daffin-Dale with Blood,
Of slaughtered bodies soon.

Which they Interpreteted to be their Enemies Bodies, though it probed of their own; for the Earl setting upon them, after a stout resistance, they were overcome, two thousand slain upon the place; Ret with his Brother and nine others Executed, the rest taken unto Mercy.

And Womens Malice cause much harms.

Lamentable was the effects occasioned by the malice of two Women in this Kings Reigne, which that you may the better understand, we shall declare the Original grounds thereof. The King had two Wifes, Brothers to Queen Jane his deceased Mother, Edward Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector, &c. and Thomas Lord Seymor Baron of Sudly, High Admiral of England: The Lord Sudly, had taken to Wife Katharine Parr, Queen Dowager, last Wife to King Henry the Eighth. The Duke had married the Lady Ann Stanhope, a Woman for many Imperfections intollerable; This Woman did bare such indincible hate, first against the Queen Dowager for light-causes, and Womens

quat-

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

11

quarrels; especially, for that she had Precedency of place before her s
that albeit, the Queen Dowager dyed by Child-birth, yet would not
her Malice either dye, or decrease, but hated the Lord Sudly, for her
sake; and left buzzing fears and jealousies in her Husband's ears,
(who was of an easie beliefe) that within few days the Lord Sudly was
Arrested and sent to the Tower, and in a very short time after Con-
demned by Act of Parliament; and within few days after his Con-
demnation, a Warrant was sent, under the hand of his Brother the
Duke, whereby his Head was delivered to the Axe; which verisil what
was before predicted.

O deadly Pride! O hateful Strife!
Brothers to seek each others Life.

O Wifes! the most sweetest Payson, the most belted Edel in the
World! certainly, as it is true, as Syracides saith, that there is no
Malice to the Malice of a Woman: so no Mischiefe wanted where a
Malicious Woman beareth Sway; a Woman was fitt givern to speake
a Comfozor, but not for a Counciller, much less a Controuler and Ad-
reder; and therefore, in the first Sentence against Man, the cause is
express, Because thou obeyest the voice of thy Wife. And doubtless the
Protector, by being thus ruled to the death of his Brother, seemed with
his left hand to habe cut off his right; for hereby he left himself note
unguarded from the malice of his Enemies, the Earl of Warwick, &c.
who being ambitious of ingressing all power into his own bands, soon
wrought the confusyon of the Duke, as it follows in the Prophecy.

Ambition shall so deadly spread,

The Griffin fierce shall lose his Head.

For the Earl of Warwick seeing opportunity, shewing himself,
and knowing that in troublous tinges, the obedience of great Per-
sons is most easilly shaken, won about eighteen of the Privy-Council
to hant with him against the Lord Protector: Whereof he did to wind up
his purpose, that they withdrawen from the Court, fell to private
Consultations, and so secreted the matter, that at length they brought
the Protector upon the scaffold, shortly indeyn he had his Head cut off,
figured here by the Hand of Justice.

Soon after that the Lyon dye,
And Mildness Under Cruelty.

By the Lyon is meant King Edward, who suruibed his uncle the
Duke of Somerset, not above two years grise for his death, as it is
generally

25. *The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.*

generally concealed) bringing him into a Consumption, though some
people expected him to be preserved; soon after his death Spals and Pa-
per were raised again by Queen Mary, for which cause many after-
wards tripped in the flames, decimating the last heretic.
And Mildness Usurp Cruelty.

C H A P. XI.

Her Prophecies concerning the Death of the Lady Jane Grey; the
Burning of the Martyrs; of Marys Rebellion; the Death of
Queen Mary; and of Cardinal Pole.

By Parents too Ambitious Pride,
The Scaffold shall with Blood be dy'd.
A Virtuous Lady then shall dye,
For being raised up too high;
Her Death shall caute another's Joy,
Who will the Kingdom much annoy.
Miter shall rise, Miter come down,
And streams of Blood shall Smithfield drown.
England shall joyn in League with Spain,
Which some to hinder strive in vain.
The Lyonets from Life retires,
And Potifical Priest expires.

This Prophecy is peculiarly applied to the Reign of Queen Mary,
and may be Interpreted after this manner,

By Parents too Ambitious Pride,

The Scaffold shall with blood be dy'd.

This is meant by the Lady Jane Grey Daughter to the Duke of Suffolk, who having spars'd the Lord Gilford Dudley, Son to the Duke of Northumberland, the ambition of Northumberland was so great, that he practised much on King Edward's tender years, who notwithstanding was much weakened with sickness, that excluded his two sisters, the Lady Mary, and Lady Elizabeth. He conveyed the Crown to the Lady Jane, by that which we may call the Testament of King Edward, and the Will of the Duke of Northumberland. But the Commons taking part with the

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

37

the Lady Mary, notwithstanding, the Duke was with great forces against her, and his followers defeating him, he was forced to take about, and with an unwilling mind proclaim her Queen, whom in his heart he hated above all others.

A Vertuous Lady then shall dye,
For being raised up too high.

The Lady Jane Grey, who out of dutifullnes to her Parents, assuming the Title of Queen upon her, for her offence, lost her Head: This Lady Jane was a Woman of most rare and incomparable perfections; for besides her excellent beauty, adorned with all variety of Virtues, as a clear Sky with Stars, as a princely Widam with Jewels; she was the mirror of her time, for her Religion and Education in the knowledge of the Liberal Sciences, and still in Languages, for in Theology, in Philosophy, in all the Liberal Arts, in the Latine and Greek Tongues, and in the vulgar Languages of divers near Nations, she far exceeded all of her day, and few one of her peers.

Her Death shall calle another joye (none) Who will chalke Kingdom much annoy.

The Death of the Lady Jane was supposed to be a rejoicing to Queen Mary, and who by removing Popery, and the persecutions that the Prelates of the Church suffered in her time, is said to bring the Kingdom to annoy.

Miter shall flye, Miter come downe,
And streams of blood shall Smithfield drown.

By the Miters are meant the Bishops, who in the Change of Religion found great Change; being few of them keeping their Seats wherein they had been seated by King Edward the sixth, the Names of the Bishops thus purposed, were these, Cranmer Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, Ridley Bishop of London, Bonner Bishop of Winchester, Holgate Arch-Bishop of York, Bults Bishop of Bristol, Bird Bishop of Chester, Hooper Bishop of Worcester and Gloucester, Barlo Bishop of Bath and Wells, Scory Bishop of Chichester, Ferrar Bishop of St. Davids, Coverdale Bishop of Exeter, Taylor Bishop of Lincoln, and Harley Bishop of Hereford; in the room of these Bishops thus purposed, several Bishops were raised, as Cardinal Pole made Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, Bonner Bishop of London, Gardiner Bishop of Winchester, Heath Arch-Bishop of York, Holeman Bishop of Bristol, Gotes Bishop of Chester, Brook Bishop of Gloucester, Pates Bishop of Worcester, Bourn Bi-

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

Wthop of Bath and Wells, Christopherⁿ Bishop of Chichester, Mor^ganⁿ Bishop of St. Davids, Turbervilleⁿ Bishop of Exeter, Whiteⁿ Bishop of Lincoln, and Parsewⁿ Bishop of Hereford.

And streams of Blood shall dimple & drown.

Queen Mary intending to make her self with Philip King of Spain, the bruit thereof being spread amongst the people, was by them ill represented, as breeding tumulte under the paines of a Traitor; to hinder the same (amongst otherby) Sir Thomas Wyatt, a Kentish Knight, took Armes, with a great party assisting him. The Queen hearing of his Commotion, sent a Herald to him to desist, which he refusing to do, the rebels upon force, sending the Duke of Norfolk with the hundreded Londoners against him; but themselves bearing more affection to Wyatts cause than the Queens, forsook their Leader, and their Loyalty togather, and joyned themselves to Wyatts faction; who much elated with this supply, presently resolved for London, promising to himself easie entrance into that City, and hearty entertainment therein; but contrary to his expectation, coming to Southwark, he found all the Towers of the Towne, and the tops of the faire steeple斯 near the bridge-foot on the other side, planted with Ordinance against him, so that seeing no good to be done there, with a swift march (hiding the darkness of the night for his Cobertura) he hasted to Kingston, passed the River, and comes to Knights-bridge, before almost any had notice of his motion.

Here he divides his Army into two parts, Five hundred of them march down towards White-Hall, but could not force their passage into it, Himself with the rest of the Army went directly to Charing-Cross, where he met with some opposition, but nothing daunted therat, he Marched directly down the Strand and Fleet-street, and coming to Ludgate promised himself entrance into the City, but finding the Gate

close shut, and well fortified against him, with men and Ammunition, his hopes then began to fail him; retreating to Temple-bar, he was faced with some Horse, where after a hot Fight, he submitted himself Prisoner, being first carried to White-Hall to be examined, from thence to the Tower, and soon after to the Scaffold, where he received the rewards of his Rebellion:

The Lyoness from Life retires,
And Pontifical Priest Expires.

By the Lyoness is meant Queen Mary, who having Reigned three years and some odd months, dyed of a Dropsey, though others say of Grief for the absence of her Husband King Philip, and others again, for Calice (taken not long before) and that she could say if after she was dead they ripped her up, they would find Calice written on her Heart.

The Pontifical Priest signified Cardinal-Pool, who expired within few hours after the Death of Queen Mary. This prelate was of princely extraction, his Mother Margaret being Daughter to George Duke of Clarence; when he was young he was brought up together with Queen Mary, and being a zealous Catholic during King Edwards Reign, suffered a voluntary exile for the same; when the Marriage with Prince Philip and Queen Mary was made up, he returned into England, was made Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, more moderate than some other of his fellow Bishops, having a labourable inclination towards the Protestants: He survived the Queen but few hours, and was buried in his own Cathedral at Canterbury, with this short and modest Epitaph on his Monument, DE POSITUM CARDINALIS POLI.

C H A P . X I L

Her Prophesies concerning the Reign of Queen Elizabeth; the change of Religion; the attempts of the Papists, upon the Queen; the Spanish Invasion; the burning of Pauls-Steeple; the Death of the Queen of Scots; the reducing of Ireland; the beheading the Earl of Essex, &c.

The Lyon fierce being dead and gone,
A Maiden Queen shall Reign anon.

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

Those who sighed, then shall sing,
And the Bells shall Changes Ring.
The Papal power shall bear no sway,
Womes trash shall hence be swept away.
The Locusts sent from the seven Hills,
The English Rose shall seek to kill.
The Western Monarchs Wooden Horses,
Shall be destroyed by the Drakes Forces.
Troy nobant's Triumphant Spire,
Shall be consum'd with Flames of Fire.
More wonders yet! a Widowed Queen,
In England shall be headless seen.
The Harp shall give a better sound,
An Earl without a Head be found.
Soon after shall the English Rose,
Unto a Male her place dispose.

These lines being a Prophecy of the most remarkable Actions during
the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, are to be interpreted after this manner.

The Lyon fierce being Dead and gone,
A Maiden Queen shall Reign anon.

Queen Mary is here meant by the fierce Lyon; so called, not so much for the Cruelty done by Her, as by the Bishops and Priests was done under her; for take her in her self, secluded from bloody Counsellers, and she was a most Merciful, Pious, Just Princess; but in respect of the blood that was shed, and the Persecutions then suffered, She is here termed a fierce Lyon: After whom is said, A Maiden Queen to Reign anon, meant by Queen Elizabeth, one who was the Spurour of her Sex and Age, who for above forty years, to the admiration of envy it self, managem'd the affairs of this Kingdom; having when she began, few Friends that durst help, and leaving no Foes when she died that could hurt her; acted her part here so well whilst here she Reigned; that History can scarcely afford us one Prince to be matched to her Fame, in all considerable particulars.

Those who sighed then shall sing,
And the Bells shall Changes Ring.

Many who late and sighed in the days of Queen Mary by reason of the hot Persecution, being forced to forsake their Houses, because they would not forsake their Religion ; now that Queen Elizabeth began to reign, their mourning was turn'd into joy, their sighing into singing ; returning from their exile, with Psalms of Thanksgiving in their mouths : where their Bells rang such Changes in Religion, that the Mass was put down, and the Common-Prayer set up : Popery banish'd and Reformation establish'd ; the Ministers of the Gospel advanced, and the schabelling Priests, Monks, and Fryers, deprest.

The Papal power shall bear no sway ;
Nomes crash shall hence be swept away.

Soon after the Queens coming to the Crown, a Parliament began at Westminster, wherein the Laws of King Henry the Eighth, against the See of Rome were renew'd, and those of King Edward the Sixth, in favour of the Protestant's rebib'd, and the Laws by Queen Mary made against them, repealed : Uniformity of Prayer, and Administration of Sacraments was enacted, with a Restitution of first Fruits and Tenth's to the Crown ; and the Queen acknowledged to be the only and Supreme Governor of her Kingdome : The people in each place beating down superstitious Pictures and Images, which blind and misguided zeal had set up.

The Locusts sent from the seven Hill,
The English Rose shall seek to Kill.

By the Locusts are meant the Priests, Fryers and Jesuits; who spread all the world over in greater numbers than the Locust did in the Land of Egypt ; and by the seven Hills is meant Rome, which is built upon seven Hills ; and by the English Rose is signified Queen Elizabeth, whom the Priests and Jesuits by their Instruments did often attempt to kill ; to that if we seriously consider her Reign, we shall scarcely find any Prince, whose life was so often attempted as hers, of which to give you some examples would not be impertinent to our purpose, and first in her Sisters Reign ; Stephen Gardiner Bishop of Winchester, and other Romanists, offendes with her Religion, so brought with Queen Mary, suggesting that she was consenting to Wyats insurrection, that she was sent Prisoner to the Tower, and (as it is said) a warrant

rant intended to be sealed for her Execution, had not King Philip interceded. After she came to the Crown she was as incident to troubles as the month April is to showers, Spain, France, and Scotland, combining against her, Pope Pius Quintus by his Bull deposes her, in prosecution whereof the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland rise up in Rebellion, being to have been assisted by the Duke D' Alva out of the Low-Countries, but out of these troubles she was delivered by their Confusion. After these Leonard Dakers, second Son to William Lord Dakers of Gellesland, endeavoured to bring her into trouble, being intrusted by her with competent Forces, which he intending to have employed to her detriment, failed in his hopes and power; and brought both shame and ruine to himself. Next did Thomas and Edward Stanley, younger Sons to the Earl of Darby, with several others plot against her; all which ended in their Ruine and her safety. These failing, Captain Stukley promised to perform wonders against her, but his Mountains proved not so much as Mole-hills, he being slain in Barberry, his design failed. But to speak of personal attempts against her, one Somerville drew his Sword in the Court to have slain her, Doctor Parry a Spaniolized Italian intended to have Pistoled her as she walked in the privy Garden: Savage, Windsor, Salisbury, Tilney, and others, Conspired to kill her, the which they waited several times to effect: one William Stafford, by the instigation of the French Ambassador, undertook to kill her: Doctor Laperone of her Swynn Physitians, for a sum of Money, engaged to poison her: and to conclude all, one Edward Squire formerly belonging to her Stable, with a mortiferous confection poisoned the Pomel of her Saddle, when she was riding out; From all which notwithstanding, though she were maliciously poisoned, she was miraculously preserved, and dyed in grace; maugre all the Malice of her Enemies.

The Western Monarchs Wooden Horses,
Shall be destroy'd by the Drakes Forces.

By the Western Monarchs Wooden Horses, is meant the King of Spains great Armado, in the year 1588, by them termed Invincible, though the success of it answered not the name, being by Sir Francis Drake and others, brade Sons of Neptune, and Souldiers of Mars, met withal, fought with, and really vanquish't, most of them sunk, and

and the rest destitute and scatter'd, being Chased by our Ships past the 57 degree of Northern Latitude, and there left to be pursued by hunger and cold, a history so remarkable, that time, noz age, will ever wear the remembrance thereof away.

Troy novant's Triumphant Spire,

Shall be consum'd in Flames of Fire.

By Troy novant is meant London, which in ancient writings is called Troy novant; and the Triumphant Spire, signifies Pauls-steeple, which in the year 1561 the fourth of June, strangely fell on Fire, burning soz the space of five full hours, in which time it melted all the Lead off the Church, only the Stone Arches escaping the fury thereof; sundry causes were attributed by sundry persons of this Fire; some that it was casually blasted with Lightning; others that it was mischievously done by Art Magick; and others (which was most likely) done by the negligence of a Plummer carelessly leaving his coals thererin. The Queen was much grieved for this mischance, but by her bounty, the Cities liberality, and a contribution from the Clergy, it was afterwards repaired, only the blunt Tower had not the top thereof sharpened into a Spire as before.

More Wonders yet! a Widowed Queen,

In England shall be Headless seen.

The Widowed Queen signifies the Queen of Scots, the Mother of King James, who was Beheaded at Fotheringhay-Castle, somesay by the privity, others to the great discontent of Queen Elizabeth; A Lady of a sharp Wit, undaunted Spirit, comely Person, Beautiful Face, Majestic presence, a fluent Orator, and an excellent Poet, as may appear by several things now extant; amongst others of her Verses, this was one, which she wrote with a pointed Diamond in a window, during her Imprisonment in Fotheringhay-Castle.

From the top of all my Trust,

Mishap hath laid me in the Dust.

She was Beheaded the ---- day of ---- Anno 1587, and was first Buried in the Mure of Peterborough, afterwards by her Son King James, solemnly removed from thence to Westminster, where in the South-side of the Chapel of King Henry the Seventh, he erected a Lately Monument to her Memory.

The Harp shall give a better Sound.

The Harp signifies Ireland, as being the Armes of that Country, which Queen Elizabeth by reducing to a better obedience, made it give a better Sound, that is, made it more civilized, and profitable to the Exchequer then ever before.

An Earl without a Head be found.

This was spoken of the Earl of Essex, one who was the favourite of the Queen, and darling of the people; two things which seldom come together, and yet could not both of them protect him from the Scaffold, but that thereon he lost his Head.

Soon astee shall the English Rose,
Unto a Male her place Dispose.

By the English Rose is meant Queen Elizabeth, as we said before; by whose death, the Right and Title to the Crown, came to James the Sixth, King of Scotland, as lineally descended from Margaret the Eldest Daughter to King Henry the Sebenth; the Issue Male failing by the death of Queen Elizabeth; and here is to be remembered, the Policy of King Henry the Sebenth, who having two Daughters, married the eldest of them to the King of Scotland, and the Youngest to the King of France, that if his issue male should happen to fail (as it afterwards did) then Scotland might wait upon England as the greater Kingdom, and not England upon France as the lesser: besides there was an old Prophecy, which intimated King James's coming to the English Crown; soz when King Edward the First parced Scotland, amongst other things, he brought from thence their Royal Chair, (still preserbed at the Abby in Westminster) upon which Chair these Verses were writ.

If Fates go right, where e're this Chair is Pight,
The Regal Race of Scots shall Rule the Place.

Which by the Coronation of King James there performed, made good the words of the Prophecy.

C H A P.

C H A P. XL.

The Prophesies of the Reign of King James, his Uniting England and Scotland, his Peaceable Reign, a Learned time, the Powder-Treason, the Marriage with the Prince Elector, and Lady Elizabeth; the Death of Prince Henry.

THe Northern Lyon over Tweed,
The Maiden Queen shall then succeed,
And joyn in one two Mighty States,
Janus then shall shut his Gates.
Mars shall yield to Mercury,
All things tend to Prosperity.
Hells power by a fatal Blow,
Shall seek the Land to overthrow.
Which by mistake shall be reverst,
And Heads from Shoulders be disperst.
The British Olive next shall twine
In Marriage with the German Vine.
The Ninth to Death his power shall yield,
Death Conquers all, he wins the Feild.

Next follows the remarkable actions of King James's Reign, predicted in the foregoing lines, which may be thus explai ned.

The Northern Lyon over Tweed,
The Maiden Queen shall then succeed,
And joyn in one, two Mighty States.

By the Northern Lyon, is meant King James; and by the Maiden Queen, Queen Elizabeth, whom King James, being King of Scotland succeeded in the English Crown, joyned thereby the two Nations of England and Scotland, which had been often attempted before, not only by Conquest, but by Marriage; once by Conquest, by King Edward the First, who subdued their Armies, took their strong places, and made their Nobles yield him obeisance; yet wbat they thus lost by him, they recovered of his Son King Edward the Second;

the other of Marriage, was by King Henry the Eighth, who endeavoured to have matched his Son, Prince Edward, with the Heiress of Scotland, and had proceeded very far therein, when Death cut him off; and though afterwards attempted by the Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector, and the Scots beaten at Musselborough-field, yet all would not prevail; God having decreed their union to be afterwards, in a more peaceable manner.

Janus then shall shut his Gates.

Janus was one of the Gods belonging to the ancient Romans; whose Temple was never shut but in the days of Peace, which happened not above twice, in the space of two Thousands years: King James's Reign being a very peaceable time, when Swords rusted in their Sheaths for want of using them; Mother Shipton in her Prophetic alludes thereto.

Mars shall yield to Mercury,
All things tend to prosperity.

War shall give place to Peace, Fighting to Pleading, the Sword to the Soton, the Pike to the Pen, Barbarism to Learning, &c. this Peace shall cause Plenty, Plenty work Prosperity, &c.

Hells power by a fatal Blow,
Shall seek the Land to overthrow.
Which by mistake shall be reverst,
And Heads from Shoulders be dispersd.

These Lines habe reference to the horrid Powder-Plot, which was to have been acted by some desperate Papists, to have blown up the Parliament House with Gun-powder, and therein our Religion, Laws, King, Prince, Peers, Bishops, Judges, Knights, and Burgesses, all designed to Destruction: The chief actors herein were, Robert Catesby, Thomas Percy, Sir Everard Digby, Francis Thresham, Robert Winter, Thomas Writer, John Wright, Chris. Wright, Ambrose Bookwood, Robert Key, John Graunt, Guido Fauz, and Bates Catesbies man, Gentlemen most of Ancient Families, some of plentiful Fortunes, but all of resolute Spirits: These being suggested by the Devil, and seconded by his Agents, the Jesuits, to bring their purpose about,

about, hired a Vault under the Parliament-House wherein they stowed Thirty six Barrels of powder, with several Iron-Bars, to make the force of the Fire more effectual, all which they covered with Willets, thinking thereby to have covered their Design from being discovered: On the Fifth of November, the day of the Parliaments first sitting, was the time appointed, to put their Design in Execution; but providence had ordered it otherwise, that those who intended mischief, should take the effects of it; on the Evening before, came to the Lord Monteagle a strange Letter, from a strange hand, by a strange Messenger; without Date to it, or Name at it, and (to outward appearance) sense in it? A Letter which when it was opened, was even still Sealed, such the affected obscurity therein: The Letter contained these words,

My Lord,

Out of the Love I bear to some of your Friends, I have a care of your Preservation; therefore I would advise you, as you tender your Life, to devise some excuse to shift off your attendance at this Parliament: For God and Man have concurred to punish the wickedness of this time. And think not slightly of this Advertisement, but retire your self into your Country, where you may expect the Event in safety: for though there be no appearance of any stir, yet I say, they shall receive a terrible Blow this Parliament, and yet they shall not see who hurts them: This Counsel is not to be Contemned, because it may do you good, and can do you no harm; for the danger is past so soon as you have burnt the Letter; and I hope God will give you Grace to make good use of it: To whose Holy Protection I commend you.

This Letter being communicated to the King, he expounds the mystical Blow, to be meant by Gun-powder, and thereupon commanded the Rooms under the Parliament House to be searcht, where the Mystery of Iniquity was quickly discovered, some of the Traytors taken in London, others in the Country, the hands of Justice overtaking them, they became examples of Justice, and tasted of that Cup (though not with that Cruelty) which they intended others should have drank of.

The British Olive next shall twine,
In Marriage with the German Vine.

By the British Olive, is meant the Lady Elizabeth, Daughter to King James; and by the German Vine, the most Illustrious Prince Frederick, Count Palatine of the Rhine; this Lady Elizabeth was enriched with all the endowments both of Body and Mind, which make to the compleating of a Princess; most dearly beloved of the English, as one that deserved well of all; hear a wit of her Age thus complaining.

Most sweet Elizabeth! that happy Name,
If we lost nothing else by losing thee,
So dear to England is, we are to blame
If without Tears and Sighs we parted be.

They were Married with great Solemnity at Westminster,
February 14, Anno 1612.

The Ninth to Death his Power shall yield.
Death Conquers all, he wins the Field.

This is meant of Prince Henry, who is called the Ninth, in regard that if he had Lived till King James Dyed, he would have been the Ninth King of that Name, since the Conquest: He was a Prince of most excellent parts, nat wanting any thing therewith Nature and Art could enrich him; of a very plaus Disposition, never heard by any alibe to swear an Oath, for which Arch-Bishop Abbot commended him in his Funeral Sermon, the Prince being wont to say, That he knew no Game or Value to be wone or lost, that could be worth an Oath. He Dyed of an extraordinary burning Feaver, being generally lamented of the whole Land.

C H A P. XIV.

The Prophesies of the Reign of King Charles the First, his Marriage with France, the Murther of the Duke of Buckingham, the Scottish Troubles, of the Long Parliament, and Bloody War ensuing after the execrable Murther of the King.

Mother Shipton having proceeded thus far in her Prophesies, broke off abruptly with a deep sigh, the tears trickling down her Cheeks, accompanied with the wringing of her bands, as if some extraordinary mischance had befallen her. The Abbot wondered greatly what should be the cause of so sudden an alteration, having observed all along before a settled composedness in her countenance, and now to break out into such exclamations: He therefore thus said unto her, Mother Shipton, it is moze then some ordinary matter which hath made you to break out into this sudden passion, and if it may not be troublesome unto you, I shall desire, that as hitherto you have not been scrupulous in revealing those secrets unto me, which have wrought in me both wonder and amazement, so that now you will not so abruptly break off, as to leave me in suspence of the cause of your sorrow; Ah Mr. Abbot (said she) who can with dry Eyes repeat what must next ensue, or but think upon it without a Heart full of Agony, to see Virtue trampled on, and Vice exalted; Beggars on Horse-back, and Princes on Foot; the Innocent Condemned, and the Blood-thirsty go Free. But since my promise binds me to fulfil your request, I shall proceed where I left.

The Crown then fits the White King's Head,
Who with the Lillies soon shall wed;
Then shall a Peasant's Bloody Knife,
Deprive a great Man of his Life.
Forth from the North shall Mischief blow,
And English Hob shall add thereto.
Then shall the Council great Assemble,
Who shall make great and small to tremble.
Mars shall rage as he were Wood,
And Earth shall drunken be with Blood.
The White King then (O grief to see)
By Wicked Hands shall Murdered be.

|These

These Lines are so plain, relating to the Actions of the late Times, as shall need no Oedipus to explain them; however as we have all a long made several Comments upon her Text, we shall here likewise proceed in the same Method as we did before.

The Crown then fits the White Kings Head.

By the White King, is meant King Charles the First, so called, not only in respect of the purity and uprightness of his Life, signified by White; but also that at the time of his Coronation he was Cloathed in White, which some venomous tongues have since urged against him, That he was not Crowned as other Kings, as if Princes might not have the same liberty as meaner persons, to assume what coloured Garb they list to wear to themselves.

Who with the Lillies soon shall wed.

Somewhat before King James's Death a Marriage was concluded on betwixt Prince Charles, and the Lady Henrietta Maria, Daughter to that Martial Prince Henry the fourth King of France; but before the Consummation thereof, King James died, not long after his Funerals were over, she was brought into England, and solemnly married to King Charles, who is hereupon said to wed the Lillies, the Lillies being the Armes of France.

Then shall a Peasants Bloody Knife,
Deprive a great Man of his Life.

This is spoken of the Duke of Buckingham, the greatest Man in favour of those times, and thereupon (as it is most commonly seen) most hated of the people; who laid the blame of all miscarriages in the State upon him; right or wrong he was sure to undergo their censure: Being made General for the Relief of Rochel, then besieged by the French Forces; before he Imbarked at Portsmouth, he was most villainously stabbed by one Felton a discontented Officer in his Army; who was so far from flying for the same, that though he might have passed away undiscovered, he boldly avow'd himself to be the Man that did it; alledging, That he had therein done his Country good Service; but before his Death was better principled, and made sensible of the heinousness of the Sin of Murder, recanting his former erroneous principles, and dying very penitently, being hanged in Chains at Portsmouth, Anno 1627.

Forth from the North shall mischief blow,
And English Bob shall add thereto.

This

This Propheſte alludes to that Ancient Proberb, From the cold North all ill comes forth; and may be understood of our troubles commencing in 1639, taking their original rife from Scotland, and fomented by ſeveral Factious Spirits in England, the Dragon of Preb-
bytery beginning then to appear in its own colours, the Kirk of Scot-
land habing ſo high an opinion of its own purity, that it participated
more of Moſes his platform in the Mount, than other Protestant
Churches, being a Reformed Reformation; ſo that the practice there-
of might be diuertoy to others, and ſo fit to giue, not take, waite,
nor receive Copies from any Neighbouring Church; deſiring that all
otherz were like unto them, ſave only in their afflictions. Hereupon
they stood ſo high upon their pantoffles, that they refuled the Common-
prayer, disclaimed their Bifhops, raised Lumults, and under pretence
of defending the Scottish Kirk, raised a War againſt the English State,
the benom of which Poſon ſo infected the veins of the English, who
followed this Scottish President, that it brake forth into a moſt bitter
War, and ended not, but with the death of many thousands of people.

Then shall the Council great Asſemble,
Who ſhall make great and ſmall to tremble.

By the great Council is meant the long-lasting Parliament, to
be known to all posterity, for the remarkable transactions therein: It began November the 3d. 1640, and may more properly be ſaid to be the
Parliament that wrought Wonders, then that in the time of King
Henry the Third, which had the ſame appellation. By them fell the
wile Stafford, and Reverend Laud, by them was Episcopacy voted
down, and Presbytery voted up; by them was the Common-prayer
denied, and the direcroy exalted: they were the firſt that brought that
ſtrange Kiddle into the World, that a Man might Fight for, and a-
gainſt his King; by them was the Oath Ex Officio condemned, and
the Cobenant (far worse) applauded; in ſum, by them was the Churh
and State turned topsy turvey; but this cannot be reported of all a-
mongſ them, many of them hated their doings, diſſented from them,
and ſuffered by them.

CHAP

Mars ſhall rage as he were wood,
And Earth ſhall drunken be with blood.

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

To repeat all the Skirmishes, Fights, and Battles that have happened betwixt the Kings and Parliaments Forces, (here intended by this Propheſſe) would of it ſelf require a Volume, in ſome of which, v. z. that at Marſton-more, eight thouſand Men were killed at a time, ſo that the Earth might well be laid to be Drunken with their Blood; and which is the moſe pity, was ſhed by Englishmen of one Country, Citizens againſt Citizens, Neighbours againſt Neighboors, nay, one Man againſt another, and profected with the greateſt vigour that might be, according to that of the Poet.

The highest fury Reigns in Civil War,
And Country-men in Fight moſt Cruel are,

As was verified all a long during our unnatural Civil-War, none holding out with moſe obſtinacy, Fighting moſe eagerly, nor in the Execution moſe bloody then they!

The White King then (O grief to ſee)
By wicked hands shall Murthered be.

Spoken concerning the Execrable Murtherer of that pious Prince King Charles the First, the moſt Renowned for piety, prudence and patience; of all his Contemprory Princes througouſt the whole world; of whom when all is laid that can be ſpoken, yet doth all come far ſhort of his deserved praifes: I shall therefore cum up all with this Epitaph made on him by a Learned Pen.

He that can Spell a Sigh, and read a Tear,
Pronounce amazement, and accent wild Fear;
Having all Grief by Heart; He, only he,
Is fit to Write and Read thy Elegy.
Unvalued Charles! thou art ſo hard a Text,
Writ in one Age, not understood i'th' Next.

C H A P.

C H A P. XV.

The Reign of King Charles the Second ; the Usurpation of Cromwell ; the Strange Confusions of a Democratical Government ; the Restoration of the King ; the great Sickness ; the Burning of the City of London.

THe White King Dead, the Wolf shall then,
With Blood possess the Lyons Den,
But Death shall hurry him away,
Confusion shall a while bear sway :
But Fate to England shall restore,
A King to Reign as heretofore.
Mercy, and Justice too, likewise,
He in his time shall exercise.
Great Death in London shall be though,
And Men on tops of Houses go.

These Prophesies being all fulfilled in the Memory of Man, and well known unto the world, we shall be the briefer in the explanation of them.

The White King dead, the Wolf shall then,
With Blood possess the Lyons Den.

By the White King (as we said before) is meant King Charles the First ; and by the Wolf Oliver Cromwel, so termed by reason of his Bloody disposition ; that Beast being judged more greedy and ravenous of all others ; and therefore fitly resembled to Cromwel, whose ambition was such that he left no means unattempted, until he had got into the Lyons-den, that is to say, until he had attained the sole Government ; which being done, he then plucked the Straits down by which he had mounted, turning the Rump out of doors, making them his Servants, who were formerly his Masters ; exercising his cruelty upon Cabiliers, which he deemed double policy, as being thereby rid of his Enemies, and enriching his Coffers with their Wealth, though it were in effect but Wherter and Hobber, and proclaimed him to be a Blood-thirsty Tyrant.

But Death shall hurry him away.

Very remarkable was the day in which the Protector dyed, being the Third of September Anno 1658, wherein the wind was so violent, that it overthrew many houses, tore up many trees by the roots, tumbled down chimneys, and unreach'd barns and stables; but as it is a very ill wind that blows none good, so with all the hurt this wind did, it made some recompence, in blowing this bloody Tyrant away, which made the people so little sensible of their losses, that they thought their private harms not to stand in competition with this general good.

Confusion shall a while bear sway.

Spoken in respect of the Confusion of Governments we then had: First, a Rump Parliament, then a Protector, next a Rump Parliament again, then a Fools-dubbe, called a Committee of safety, afterwards a Rump Parliament again; now thus, then that, a great many Governments, and none good.

But Fate to England shall restore;
A King to Reign as heretofore.

This was fulfilled in the happy Restoration of King Charles the Second, which put a period to all those Oligarchical Confusions, and restored the Land to its Ancient pristine Government; which till then, groaned under the oppressions of a Company of Mechanical (and therein the worst sort of) Tyrants.

Mercy and Justice too likewise,
He in his time shall exercise.

If this many are the examples which might be produced; how many, though notorious Delinquents, received to Mercy? Life given to those, who would have taken his life away; few only suffering, but such whose offences were so Capital, as could not come well within the verge of a Pardon, or good upon Justification of their former execrable Actions: Such rotten Members deserving to be cut off from the body of the Common-wealth, who otherwise would have been very notorious, and prejudicial to those that were sound.

Great Death in London shall be though.

Verified by the great Plague in London 1665 (which for number) was the greatest that hath been known in these latter Centuries of years, and which (if not any thing else) might convince our Sectaries, how necessary that Prayer in the Letany is for to be used, From Plague, Pestilence and Famine, good Lord deliver us.

And



And Men on tops of Houses go.

This was suddenly fulfilled in that great Conflagration of Fire, which happened in London, Sept. 2, 3, and 4. Anno 1666. by which so many Houses were destroyed, that Men afterwards in the Ruins went on the tops of those Houses, whose lofty Structures not long before seemed to habe the skie, and which would dazzle weak eyes to look up and behold the tops of them.

The Fiery year as soon as o're,
Peace shall then be as before.

A Phenix City in strange wise,
Shall out of fatal Ashes rise.

These predictions were exactly accomplished by the Peace concluded with the Dutch soon after 1666, called here properly the Fiery year, and the wonderful Rebuilding of the City of London to greater Magnificence than ever in so short a space.

When

18
The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

When Mars again unsheathes his Sword,
Your Treacherous Friends small aid afford:
Great noise there shall be heard, great shouts and cries,
And Seas shall Thunder louder than the Skies.

This alludes to the second Dutch war, wherein the French pretended to be friends to the English, but afforded them small aid, but in truth barely deserted them in the Engagements at Sea, where the Canons were louder than Thunder.

A Boat a Boat, look thwart the Thames,
The Southern-pile is all on Flames.

This can be understood of nothing but the great Fire in Southwark, wherein the best part of the Burrough, which She calls the Southern Pile, was Consumed.

The World's in Arms, and ill at ease,
Another World looks on in Peace.

The happy Isle shall freely Trade,
While Blood and Horror mighty Realms Invade.

This was happily as to England berilted in the year 1677. when she only stood looking on in Peace, and enjoyed freedom of Trade, whilst all the rest of Europe were fiercely engaged in War.

The Eagle droops, and Moults his Wings,
And fewds arise twixt Northern Kings:
Holland is threatened, Spain doth pine,
And Blood shall swell the Riper Rhine.

This Relates to the late Wars between France and the Empire, whose Arms are the Eagle; whereby great destruction was occasioned on the borders of the Riper Rhine, the chief seat of that war. And as the two Northern Crowns, Sweden and Denmark were engaged in Arms one against the other, so Holland was much threatened, and the Spanish Territories in the Low-Countries curtail'd and weakened, besides what may yet happen in that kind hereafter.

But when the Orange and the Rose
Unite, beware old Englands Foes.

By the Rose is commonly understood a branch of the Royal English Stem, and by Orange is plainly denoted his Highness the Prince of that Line; And tho there has been an Inter-Marriage between those Illustrious Families; yet by the Series of things here foretold. It must

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

47

must be Interpreted in this place, to refer to the Match between the present Prince, and the Princess Mary, Eldest Daughter to his Royal Highness the Duke of York; which he foretels shall be of happy consequence to our Nation, in point both of security and advantage, and a great disappointment to the Enemies of England.

In Sixteen Hundred Seventy Eight,
That Corn on which our Horses bait
Shall help preserve a threatened State,
And Trunkle-bed, and Horses-pride
A Mals of Villany unhide;
But sturdy doubts abroad are spread,
And each Man believes as he is led.

It's not difficult to accommodate this to the Discovery of the Popish-Plot, 1678. The Names of the three Principal Evidence being Hieroglyphically described, viz. Oats, Bedlow, and Prance, and how much their Testimony has been credited by most, and yet disbelieved or doubted of by others, is well known, nor is it our present business to say who is in the right, or who in the wrong.

Confusions now possess the Isle,
And wisest Councils more Embroil.
The Feet by Subtle Arts are led,
To dictate to their Sovereign Head,
Till Royal Jobe exert his Power,
And brings aspiring Rabbi's lower.

He that cannot Interpret this part of the Oracle, without an Oedipus, were best to set forth an Hue and Cry after his Memory and understanding.

Then different furies seek to spoil
The Realm, but justly meet a foil,
The Flame's extinct by help of Myt.

This apparently Indicates the last Damnable Plot against the Persons of his Sacred Majesty, and his Royal Brother, and the Government; first Discovered most seasonably by a Person that is by Trade an Oyl-man.

A

A Christal-wall there shall be Built
 A thwart the ~~Thames~~, yet all that Skift,
 Heavens Mystique Language shall be blind,
 And no cause of this wonder find.
 Folks Fish for Toys, instead of Roach,
 And for a ~~Wherry~~, call a Coach.

This is a pat description of the late wonderful Frost in December 1683, and January and February 1683, & 84, when the Thames for above a Month was so Frozen, that not only thousands of people daily pass'd ober, but whole streets were built, where all sorts of Toys were sold, Coaches continually ply'd on the Ice, between the Temple and Westminster as in the Greets, Bulls were baited, an whole Ox Roasted on the Thames, &c. which as no Age could parrallel, so it was obserued that this extraordinary Frost was so far from being foretold by any of our bulgar Astrologers, who pretend to be deep Learned in Heavens books, that on the contrary, they all the while generally promised fine moderate temperate Weather.

But before this, Danubius Streams,
 Shall be more strait-lac'd then the ~~Thames~~.
 The Crescent does the Eagle threaten,
 But is thrasht home, severely beaten;
 For the pole-star at last appears,
 And an All-conquering Banner rears.

The Imperial City Vienna, scituate on the River Danow, (in Latine called Danubius) was Besieged towards the latter end of the year 1683. by two hundred thousand Turks, (whose Arms are the Crescent or Half-Moon encreasing) under the Command of the Grand Vizier, but after a most Waltant and long resistance, the Infidels by the coming up of the Polish Army, under the most renowned King Sobieski, (called here by way of allusion, the Pole-star) joyn'd with the United Forces of the Empire, were forc'd to raise their Siege, being banquifht in Battle, and pursued towards Turkey with almost incredible slaughter.

Here follows some other Prophesies which because they seem to concern future Revolutions, we shall leave the Interpretation to time, and the Intelligent Reader.

I.

When **Cybers** brackish streams Combine,
To mix their Waters with the Slime,
And both do strive to stop the **Rhine**,
Cedars shall stoop to Court the Vine.

II.

After thick Clouds, the Welkin clears,
And Albion long Night-mar'd with fears, }
With a Scener look appears.
Let her be Loyal and quiet at home,
And then deafe the Arts of Hell and Rome.

III.

Wait but a while, and the long Floating Ark,
Arrives, and Shipwrecks Peters forged Barque.
The Scarlet Strumpet that so rag'd with Ire,
Shall see her putrid Flesh consum'd with Fire,
The disbranch'd Olive joyn'd to **Telles-root**,
Brings forth on Jordang plains redoubled Fruit.

IV.

Now fond Opinions Vanish, Factions cease,
And the World snugs in Universal Peace.
From Heaven **Urga** returns, and doth possess
All Japhets spreading Sons with Happiness.
Swords turn'd to Plow-shears, all that was amiss
Remov'd, gives place unto a general Bliss,
But who, O who i shall Live, when God doth this.

H

Whether Mother Shipton were certainly the Author of all these last Prophetick Lines, is hard to say, but soe ought we can find, she Lived to an extraordinary Age, and tho' she was generally believed to be a Witch, yet Multitudes that either Read or heard her Prophecies, have had a great esteem for them, and her Memory to this day is much Honour'd by those of her own Country.

An Account of Mr. HOLWELLS late Predictions, concerning the Turk, Pope, and French King, &c.

Amongst all that in this Age have adventured to publish Predictions touching Future grand events, one Mr. JOHN HOLWELL (a Person that by his Writings seems not meanly vers'd in Astrology and Calculations) has with most assurance set forth his Conceptions, especially touching great Throads to be made by the Turks upon Christendom, dangers impending the Potent and now Flourishing Monarchy and Realm of France. The Destruction of Rome, and the Pope, &c. wherefore to gratifie the Readers Curiosity (without obliging his Faith) I shall here subjoin a breviate of some of his Prognostications.

In his Appendix to his Catastrophe Mundi, having assigned the Nativitie of the Mighty Turkish Monarchy, to a Conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter in Aquary, Audo 1285. and comparing therewith the late Conjunctions of those two Superior Planets in 1682. and 1683. He proceeds p. 19. to give his judgment in these words.

Those

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

xx

Those places will first have their share of Suffering that are under **Aquarius**, amongst which let **Galatia** and the South-part of **Poland** beware; neither shall **Austobia** be free, but shall taste of the bitter Cup that is allotted for **Europe** to taste. **Mars** making of his long transit in **Libra**, tells us, that **Austria** shall be much wasted, and the people thereof brought very low, and a great part of them will be carried Captive, and their great Town **Vienna** will go near to be lost.

All this was literally fulfilled last Summer, but by Gods Gracious Providence the City of Vienna, (when reduced to the utmost extremity) was relieved, and the Infidels beat off with great Slaughter, and pursued towards their own Territories, by the Victorious King of Poland; Whereby 'tis hoped all the Subsequent Mischiefs by this Author threatened, may be prevented, tho' he seems of quite another Opinion: for thus he goes on,

Poland shall be much wasted by both **Luth** and **Tartar**, for this Conjunction is in square to the Eleventh House of that Kings Election, and the Eclipses fall in the Second. And **Mercury** Lord of the Seventh House at the time of his Election, is in this Eclipse in square to his Tenth. And **Mars** Lord of the Tenth, is in **Libra** weak; This bids **Poland** to be very careful how he doth go to War during the time that this Conjunction is allotted to Operate, which will be near Twenty Years, for if he doth fall out with either **Luth** or **Tartar** he must expect to gain nothing but the Devastation of his fruitful-Country, with the destruction of his People, if not the hazard of the Crown, and Dignity of that Potent Kingdome.

Page 21. We find these words; This Triple Conjunction being in **Leo**, falls in square to **Scopis**, this doth bid the Duke of **Wabaria** look to his Country, for the **Turk** is like to invade him with a very great Army, and will lay waste a great part of his Territories, and joyn it to the rest of his

Conquest. And Mars being posited in Virgo, at the first time of the three Conjunctions, doth fore-shew that the Dukedom of Wittenburg, shall have the Turks to range in its Bowels; At which time the Crown of France will begin to shake for fear, and wish that he was a little further from him; but it will be in vain, for the Turk will invade his new Conquest in Alsatia, and from thence pass through Lorraine into France, and take Burgundy in the twinkling of an Eye. All the United Provinces submit to his protection, without being invaded, and by so doing save their Country from Fire and Sword. And at the same time the Turk is so Victorious in the South-West parts of Germany. Another part of his vast great Army will Range in the North, and in the North-West parts thereof, and pass through Bohemia, and enter Franconia, and from thence he will invade both higher and lower Saxony, even as far as the North parts thereof. It will seem strange to hear that the Turk should be got so far into Germany as Westphalia, and the Country of Juliers, but so it will be, and God willing must be done.

Page 26. He again tells us, That the Kingdome of France shall not escape the hands of the Turk, for he will lay waste a great many of its Flourishing Cities, but that it shall be occasioned by its own Subjects, who will Rebell and Invite in the Turk, &c.

After which, descanting on the nativity of his most Christian Majesty, he tells us that about August 1683, his ascendant was directed to the body of Mars, whence he predicts many miseries and pernicious hazards, and particularly mentions that the said French Monarchy shall be subject to have dangerous falls from Horse-back.

Which last, about that time was so far verified, that his said Majesty had a fall from his Horse and broke or dislocated his Arm.

He proceeds to threaten that great Prince in the year 1684, and for Seaven years after (if he shall so long Live) with great and various Infelicities, but in such a stile, as (for the Melpost due to all Crowned Heads) I shall forbear to repeat.

Such more modest was that message of Mr. Lilly's delivered long since, viz. In the year 1672. at which time the French King made his first attempt upon Holland, viz.

A certain kind of astonishment shall surprise an active potentate of Europe, seeing neither his actions of War or Peace, succeed according to his projected expectations; For he may know that there is an over-ruling power that can contradict all Politick Councils when not grounded upon Equity; And this he ought to remember, that he is not the Man ordained to give Laws to his Neighbouring Nations.

But to return to Mr. Holwell, Page 29. we find these words; Neither will Spain be free from great Calamity, for he must strike his Sall to that Mighty Monarch the Ottoman Emperour. And thou, Oh Italy! hast a great share of this Cup of Gods Wrath, for great will be the scarcity that will be in thy Fruitful Countrey, and an universal Plague will over-spread thy Territories, and the Turk will destroy with Fire and Sword a great part of thy Famous Towns and Cities; And he will come even to the Gates of Rome, and Sack it, as bad as the Gauls did, and will keep possession, and destroy it with Fire, and strew Salt upon it, then will the Pope be forced to Fly from place to place, and soon after will there be no more such Cattle in the World.

I have recited these Sayings because they are delivered with so much assurance, to the end, that if the Author shall be found mistaken, People may learn not to be dismay'd with such bold and vain Prognostications, and that all Artists may hence forwards express themselves with greater Caution and modesty, for the God Governs Inferior by Superior, and
the

the Stars may seem to denounce such or such Judgments or Calamities impending, yet oft-times the Astrologer is mistaken in Reading the Characters of Heaven; and at other times as God still reserves an over-riding power to himself, so after the Denunciation of Judgments it comes to pass, that by the obstinacy and growing wickedness, or the Repentance or amendment of a Nation or People, the said Judgments are hasted, aggravated, and rendered more sharp, or on the other side, protracted, alleviated, remitted, and sometime wholly removed; and therefore the best way will be, without too much amusing our selves about things future, to apply our selves to our present duties, and to leave secret things to God, who only truly knows them; for the understanding of Man is besid'd, and most of his Predictions are but Dreams and Fancies, the Old Proverb being most true.

**Mongt all that Foretelling, Profess,
He's the best Prophet, best can gues.**

F I N I S.



The Prophecy.

When One, and Six, and Eight, are joyn'd to Four,
Then England doth a grievous Lot despose
Her setting Sun, ~~Worthy~~ ^{Worthy} ~~to~~ ^{to} be a

Whil'st C. goes down, and J. in place do's Rule.

The Explanation.

This plainly Intimates the Year 1685. In which King Charles II. died on the 13th of February, while there was a general joyousness; and this is likewise Intimated by C. going down, and J. rising in his place; or his being succeeded by King James.

The Prophecy.

Now Rome is pleas'd, and Laughs aloud,
Her Locusts into Albion crowd;
The Popish Brother gains his wish,
And at the Laws, do's make a pitch;
Thinks all safe; but time will come,
When he again must pack from home.

The Explanation.

This Intimates the late King's coming to the Crown, and the Encouragement Popery (in the joy of Rome) found under him: by the stocking of the Locusts, is meant, the Friars, Monks and Jesuits, who came in Squalls into this Land, as well Strangers as Natives, but he leaves and hints at what afterwards ensued, viz. his second going out of the Kingdom.

The Prophecy.

When 5. is joyn'd with 1, and 6, and 8.
Such lies you'll hear, that Mischief will create,
With tumults of a War it rumour'd round,
But it the unhappy Authors do's Confound.

Grand

Grand Councils back the Lyon to go on,
Till M. and A. and many are undone :
The Gown more cruel than the Sword do's prove,
No Tears, nor Cries, can any pity move ;
Both Scots and English sadly feel the blowing
And suffer in their Leaders Overthrow, and go not to H

*The Explanation.**described on T*

This directly points at the Invasion of the Duke of Monmouth and C. of Argyle, in the Year 1685, which Date is made out in the first Line, and the two Letters of their Titles set down ; also the Slaughter and Execution of a great number of their partakers who suffered in Scotland and England, especially upon Jeffery's cruel Expedition into the West, where about 400 poor Country-men and others, were hanged up at divers Places, and being Quartered, their Quarters were set upon Poles all along the Road-sides, &c.

The Prophecy.

Made Proud by late Success, now Je hue like,
I do's drive on, and at Religion strike ;
To ancient Laws, there now is no regard,
But he that can supplant 'em has reward.
To throw the Church down, he the Pillars tries,
But not like Sampson, gains his Enterprise :
They stand too firm to be remov'd,
And by the People are belov'd ;
So that in this, he'll lose his hope,
To please himself, and more the Pope.

The Explanation.

This points at the Disorders of the late Reign, when Popery was coming in by Head and Shoulders, but thrust out again Arse back-wards, by the Opposition it found to Establish it self. The Pillars mentioned in it, seems to signifie the Seven Bishops, who were Imprisoned in the Tower by King James, and afterward Tryed

The Life and Death of Matthew Shipton.

Tryed at the King's-Bench-Bar, barely for presenting him with a Petition to show their Reason, why they could not read his Declaration, for Liberty of Conscience, in Churches, during Divine Service,

Now Strange News is rumoured abroad, to the great Terror and Distressment of many, but to the Joy and Comfort of others: Those that had late been desirous to ruine others, meet with strong disappointments, and in the midst of their security, are utterly frustrated: The English Mastiffs get the Scent of the Pope's Bulls, and run open Mouth'd to Bait them. The Locust are swept away, and many superstitious Structures are demolished; old England stands up high to her Height and Privileges, and those that went about to destroy them, sink under their weight.

The Explanation.

This sheweth the strange Consternation of the Papists and such as had made it their businesse to undermine and destroy the Constitution of the Government: The Mastiffs here signifie the Mob, or Multitude, who all along Opposed the setting up the Mass-Houses, and in the end, utterly demolished them; the rest is very plain to be understood.

The Prophecy.

Now Albion Groaning under great distress,
From Eastern Lands a Prince brings her redress;
Elsence of Orange makes her cease to faint,
And giveth strength to shake off her restraint.
Now Helter-Skelter, her Oppressors fly;
Pardons, Indulgences, bids Grosses scatter'd lye:
And freed from Thrall-by's Courage and Renown,
Two willing Nations do present their Crowns,
Whilst those who lately did aspire so high,
More scar'd than Huri, do's into Gallia fly.

The Explanation.

This Intimates the Deliverance of our Nation from Popery and Slavery, by the coming of an Eastern Prince, which points directly at his present Majesty, leaving Holland his Native Country from whence he came so Easterly, favourable to Rescue us when Popery was just breaking in upon us; and for his Valour, Laurels and Renown, had the Crowns of England and Scotland conferred upon him by Unanimous Consent, and with great Applause.

The Prophecy.

Now League begins to bluster, but soon
You'll hear his Tongue turn'd to Domesday Bone;
And made to smart for all the Spoils he took,
A King do's come, who almost with a look
Scares the Hibernians, and makes them to submit
Unto such Terms, as he to give thinks fit;

So a long Harrass'd Land from War does Cease,
The Conquering Sword, both brings and gives them Peace,
This points directly at the reducing of the Irish in Rebellion, by King William, and restoring that Kingdom to Peace and Tranquillity, after the Mischief it had suffered.

The Prophecy.

Now Gallia Frowns, but yet her Threats are vain,
That Tyrant shall by Wars great Loss sustain;
The British Lion with his angry Paws,
Shall tear the Lillies, and give Nations Laws;
Whilst the World wonders for to see it done,
And him who Tyranniz'd, for shelter and a gullow ow'.

The Time is near when Nations shall combiney fill'd
To Pull him down, who do's their Wreck Design.

The Explanation.

Gallia is the ancient Latin Name of France : The British Lyon signifies the Power and Strength of these Kingdoms, and its grasping and tearing the Lillies which are the proper Arms of France, denotes some great Conquest to be gained in that Country, by the undaunted Valour and Courage of the English, and hints at the Flight of the present French King; but for the more certain event of its coming to pass, that we leave to Time to make out, and wish it an Infallible Prediction.

The Prophecy,

When the Eagle and the Lyon shall Combine,
In League with others of the Royal Line ;
Then he who Universal Monarchy
So long has Aim'd at, shall Defeated be ;
His Pride shall humble to the very Dust,
And he shall see what 'tis to be Unjust ;
By a strong Purge, he shall be forced to cast
Up all that he has swallowed down in haste.
Then like the Crow, who others Feathers had,
When he is stripp'd of them, his case is bad.

The Explanation.

The Eagle is the Arms of the Empire, as the Lyon is part of that of England : Those Nations being now in League together, with many other Confederate Peoples against the French King, that common Disturber of the Peace of Christendom, who is seemed here to be Aim'd at, and that he will be very greatly Humbled, and be forced to restore what he has Violently and Unjustly taken from his Neighbours, or else expect a very great Downfall and Eclipse of his Grandeur.

S I V I

The

The Prophecy.

Old Merlin was, as well as I, foretold, that out of all
 That sea-wal'd Salmon shall in Fame still hold, and now,
 The first of Places, and a Scepter sway, in the Kingdoms vast
 That shall give Laws, and others make obey, to
 Proud France shall trounce, where a Prince shall govern
 In Albion, Vertuous, Valiant, Just, and Wise, and bring
 Whose Courage courts, and much delights in War,
 Who borrows not, but fetches Fame from far, the world
 True Brittish Vertue, he revives in Men,
 Makes them at once, now Valiant grow again
 Under his Reign, the Fates Decree Encrease,
 Conquests abroad, which ends in happy Peace.

The Explanation.

This seems to be hinted on the present Times and Affairs, under His Majesty's Propitious and Prosperous Reign and Government; his known Valour and Conduct, like a presaging Comet residing in Terror, as it were over proud France, to humble, and bring low that Aspiring Monarch, who has firew'd so many Lands with Blood and Desolation, and after great Achievements, it hints at a settled and happy Peace.

F I N I S.

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
220
221
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235
236
237
238
239
240
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274
275
276
277
278
279
280
281
282
283
284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303
304
305
306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343
344
345
346
347
348
349
350
351
352
353
354
355
356
357
358
359
360
361
362
363
364
365
366
367
368
369
370
371
372
373
374
375
376
377
378
379
380
381
382
383
384
385
386
387
388
389
390
391
392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
419
420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429
430
431
432
433
434
435
436
437
438
439
440
441
442
443
444
445
446
447
448
449
450
451
452
453
454
455
456
457
458
459
460
461
462
463
464
465
466
467
468
469
470
471
472
473
474
475
476
477
478
479
480
481
482
483
484
485
486
487
488
489
490
491
492
493
494
495
496
497
498
499
500
501
502
503
504
505
506
507
508
509
510
511
512
513
514
515
516
517
518
519
520
521
522
523
524
525
526
527
528
529
530
531
532
533
534
535
536
537
538
539
540
541
542
543
544
545
546
547
548
549
550
551
552
553
554
555
556
557
558
559
560
561
562
563
564
565
566
567
568
569
570
571
572
573
574
575
576
577
578
579
580
581
582
583
584
585
586
587
588
589
590
591
592
593
594
595
596
597
598
599
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
630
631
632
633
634
635
636
637
638
639
640
641
642
643
644
645
646
647
648
649
650
651
652
653
654
655
656
657
658
659
660
661
662
663
664
665
666
667
668
669
660
661
662
663
664
665
666
667
668
669
670
671
672
673
674
675
676
677
678
679
680
681
682
683
684
685
686
687
688
689
690
691
692
693
694
695
696
697
698
699
700
701
702
703
704
705
706
707
708
709
710
711
712
713
714
715
716
717
718
719
720
721
722
723
724
725
726
727
728
729
730
731
732
733
734
735
736
737
738
739
740
741
742
743
744
745
746
747
748
749
750
751
752
753
754
755
756
757
758
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
780
781
782
783
784
785
786
787
788
789
790
791
792
793
794
795
796
797
798
799
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808
809
810
811
812
813
814
815
816
817
818
819
820
821
822
823
824
825
826
827
828
829
830
831
832
833
834
835
836
837
838
839
840
841
842
843
844
845
846
847
848
849
850
851
852
853
854
855
856
857
858
859
860
861
862
863
864
865
866
867
868
869
870
871
872
873
874
875
876
877
878
879
880
881
882
883
884
885
886
887
888
889
880
881
882
883
884
885
886
887
888
889
890
891
892
893
894
895
896
897
898
899
900
901
902
903
904
905
906
907
908
909
910
911
912
913
914
915
916
917
918
919
920
921
922
923
924
925
926
927
928
929
930
931
932
933
934
935
936
937
938
939
940
941
942
943
944
945
946
947
948
949
950
951
952
953
954
955
956
957
958
959
960
961
962
963
964
965
966
967
968
969
970
971
972
973
974
975
976
977
978
979
980
981
982
983
984
985
986
987
988
989
980
981
982
983
984
985
986
987
988
989
990
991
992
993
994
995
996
997
998
999
1000